



Lá an tSosa Cogaidh
Cuimhneachán Céad Bliain
Armistice Day Centenary
Commemoration
11.11.2018



An Clúdach Tosaigh:

**An Smaointeoir ar Butte de Warlencourt,
le William Orpen, 1917.**

'Saighdiúir óg faoi lánfheisteas agus é ina shuí ar charraig ar thulán. Tá a lámh faoina smig aige, rud a chuireann cuma mhachnamhach air agus a chuireann 'An Smaointeoir' i gcuimhne. Tá spéir dhúghorm ann sa chúla agus tá solas á chaitheamh ar a ghnúis ag léas atá ag teacht anuas air ón taobh clé de bharr an tsaothair.

(Le caoinchead ó na Imperial War Museums)

Front Cover:

**The Thinker on the Butte de Warlencourt,
William Orpen, 1917.**

A young soldier in full kit, sitting on a rock on a mound. With his hand held pensively to his chin, his pose evokes 'The Thinker'. He sits against a background of dark blue sky, his features illuminated by a light shining down on him from the top left of the composition.

(Courtesy of the Imperial War Museums)

Réamhrá Foreword

NUAIR A THOSAIGH an cogadh i rith shamhradh na bliana 2014 nior samhlaíodh d'aon duine an méid a d'fhulaingeodh daoine lena linn. Ni féidir a rá go cinnte cá mhéad duine de bhunadh na hÉireann a d'fhóin agus a fuair bás - tá taighde ar siúl i gcónaí chun líon na dtaisimeach a chinneadh. Faoi láthar, meastar nár tháinig 35,000 Éireannach abhaile riamh, rud a d'fhág go raibb líon teaghlach as cuimse ann faoi bhrón. Ni beidh a fhios againn choíche conas a rannchuideodh na fir chróga agus na mná cróga sin le Stát na hÉireann a bhí ag teacht chun cinn dá mba rud é nach bhfaighidís bás anabai.

Maidir leo siúd a tháinig slán, d'fhág an cogadh rian orthu a d'athraigh a saol agus d'fhulaing siad anacair dhian shiceolaíoch ach thug na seirbhísí leighis agus altranais a bhí ag teacht chun cinn an tráth sin cúram caoin tuisceanach dóibh. Bhí cuid mhór acu suaite go mór agus chúb siad isteach iontu féin agus, sna blianta tar éis an chogaidh, ní raibh daoine i bhfách le haithéantas a thabhairt don mhéid a fulaingíodh.

Ar feadh na mblianta fada, d'fhan scéalta faoi na hÉireannaigh, idir fhir agus mhná, a throid agus a thug a mbeatha faoi cheilt, a bheag nó a mhór, gan aird ná iomrá orthu. Ach bhí tionchar mór ag eispéiris na ndaoine sin ar oileán na hÉireann agus is cinnte go ndeachaigh na heispéiris sin i gcion ar gach pobal, nach mór, sa tír. Ni dhearna na piléir nó na sliogáin idirdhealtú idir tuaisceartaigh agus deisceartaigh, idir Caitlicigh agus Protastúnaigh.

Nuair a bhí an cogadh san Eoraip ag dul isteach ina cheathrú bliain, gan aon ionchas go mbeadh deireadh leis, bhíothas ag éirí níos tuisri agus níos níos éadóchasai ina leith. Idir an dá linn, in Éirinn, bhí gluaiseacht dhochloite á cur ar bun ag glúin na réabhlóide agus é mar fhis acu féinrial a bhaint amach agus an seanchóras a athrú go deo.

Mar thoradh ar Dheich mBliana na gCuimhneachán tá móiminteam agus spéis nua ann maidir le cuimhneachán agus scrúdú a dhéanamh ar na hinsintí casta a bhaineann le rannpháirtíocht na hÉireann i gCogadh Domhanda I - is é sin, tionchar agus iarmhairtí an chogaidh. Ar chúiseanna éagsúla, mhothaigh cuid mhór Éireannach, idir fhir agus mhná, go raibh orthu tacú leis an gcomhar cogaidh. Bhí Éireannaigh eile go fíochmhar i gcoinne an chogaidh agus i gcoinne saighdiúirí Éireannacha a bheith páirteach sa choinbhleacht sin, agus an méid sin bunaithe ar fhorais pholaitíochta, idé-eolaíochta nó sóisialta.

WHEN WAR BROKE out in the summer of 1914, nobody imagined the scale of human suffering that would unfold. It is impossible to say for certain how many Irish-born personnel served and died - research is ongoing to determine the number of casualties. It's currently estimated that at least 35,000 Irish personnel never returned home, leaving countless families to grieve their loss. We will never know how these courageous men and women would have contributed to the emerging Irish State, had they not died before their time.

Of those who survived, many suffered life-changing physical scars and severe psychological distress and were cared for with great kindness and compassion by the embryonic medical and nursing services of the time. Deeply traumatised, many retreated into oblivion and it became unpopular, in the years that followed, to acknowledge their suffering.

For decades, the stories of the Irish men and women who fought and sacrificed their lives remained largely in the shadows, invisible and unspoken. Yet, their experiences had a profound impact on the island of Ireland and would, almost certainly, have affected every community in the country. Bullets and shells did not discriminate between northerner and southerner, Catholic or Protestant.

As the war in Europe continued into its fourth year without any prospect of ending, a growing weariness and disillusionment prevailed. Meanwhile, back at home, the revolutionary generation was forging an irrepressible movement towards fulfilling a dream of self-determination, changing the old order forever.

The Decade of Centenaries has generated a new momentum and interest in remembering and exploring the complex narratives surrounding Ireland's participation in World War I - its impact and its legacy. Many Irish men and women were inspired, for varied reasons, to support the war effort. Others fervently objected to the war and to the participation of Irish soldiers in that conflict, on political, ideological or social grounds.

100 bliain i ndiaidh an chogaidh, táimid tar éis oibriú le chéile chun aitheantas a thabhairt d'íobairt mhór na ndaoine sin a d'fhóin agus tá léargas tugtha againn ar a gcuid scéalta, is é sin, scéalta nár chualathas cuid mhór acu roimhe seo. Tá teagmháil déanta againn lena chéile chun aitheantas a thabhairt go hurramach dár gcomhdhaonnacht. Tá deireadh curtha againn, go cinntitheach, le haon tuairim a bhí ann fós go raibh Éire scoite amach agus scartha ón gcoinbhleacht.

Agus, dá bhri sin, tá Deich mbliana na gCuimhneachán tar éis tacú le forbairt a dhéanamh ar bhreithniú aibí ar chomhthéacs Chogadh Domhanda I, ar breithniú é ina léirítear tuiscint ar na cúiseanna éagsúla a bhí acu siúd a ghlac páirt sa chogadh agus ar eispéiris dheacra na ndaoine a tháinig abhaile ina dhiaidh. Tri chuimhneacháin de chineál uilechuimsitheach barántúil, agus de chineál a fhéachann le síocháin agus athmhuintearas a neartú ar oileán na hÉireann, a chur chun cinn tá cur chun cinn déanta againn freisin maidir le scrúdú níos leithne a dhéanamh ar thuairimí éagsúla faoinár gcomhstair.

Le ceithre bliana anuas, tá ár ndúshlán tugtha maidir le breithniú a dhéanamh ar dhearcthaí iolracha faoi thréimhse an-deacair agus an-chonspóideach inár stair. Tá grinnscrúdú déanta againn ar na tuairimí a raibh comhaontú ann ina leith agus a raibh glactha leo agus tá léamh malartach molta againn, á aithint gur féidir cuid mhór traidisiún atá fite fuaite ina chéile a bheith i gceist leis an miniú atá againn ar cad a chiallaíonn sé do dhuine a bheith ina Éireannach nó ina hÉireannach. Táimid ag leanúint de bheith ag obair chun meas a bheith againn ar thuairimí ilchineálacha chun a chinntiú nach dtarlóidh na hachrainn a bhí ann roimhe seo arís. Tá tús curtha againn leis an bpróiseas a bhaineann le déileáil lenár stair achrannach.

100 years later, we have worked together to acknowledge the great sacrifice of those who served and we have shone a light on their stories, many of which were never previously heard. We have reached out to one another to respectfully acknowledge our common humanity. We have conclusively set aside any lingering perception that Ireland was remote and detached from the conflict.

And so, the Decade of Centenaries has supported the development of a mature consideration of the context of World War I, which is understanding of the differing motivations of those who participated and the difficult experiences of those who returned home. By promoting commemorations that are inclusive and authentic and that seek to strengthen peace and reconciliation on the island of Ireland, we have promoted also a deeper exploration of differing perspectives on our shared history.

Over the past four years, we have been challenged to consider multiple perspectives about a very difficult and divisive chapter in our history. We have tested the agreed and accepted narrative and proposed alternative readings, recognising that our sense of what it means to be Irish can embrace many intertwined traditions. We are continuing to work towards reconciling diverse views to ensure that historic grievances do not occur again. We have begun to come to terms with our troubled past.

In looking to the future with the same spirit of mutual respect and genuine reconciliation that they embodied, we truly honour the Irish men and women who served and gave their lives side by side, in the air, in the sea, and in the mud and despair of the battlefields.

Agus sinn ag machnamh ar an todhchaí, tá ómós dáiríre
á thabhairt againn do na hÉireannaigh, idir fhir agus
mhná, a d'fhóin agus a thug a mbeatha taobh lena
chéile san aer, ar an muir, agus sa láib agus in umar
an éadóchais ar na láithreacha catha, agus déanaimid
amhlaidh de réir an mheoin chéanna còimheasa agus
fíor-athmhuintearais a bhí ag na hÉireannaigh sin.

*Then lift the flag of the Last Crusade!
And fill the ranks of the Last Brigade!
March on to the fields where the world's re-made,
And the Ancient Dreams come true!*

T.M. Kettle

An tAire Josepha Madigan T.D.
An tAire Heather Humphreys T.D.

Minister Josepha Madigan T.D.
Minister Heather Humphreys T.D.



Íomhá le Harry Clarke as Taifid
Chuimhneacháin na hÉireann
1914-1918.
Image by Harry Clarke from
Ireland's Memorial Records
1914-1918.

**An Dr Maurice Manning — Cathaoirleach
an Choiste Chomhairligh Saineolaithe
ar Chuimhneacháin Céad Bliain**
**Dr Maurice Manning — Chair of the
Expert Advisory Group on Centenary
Commemorations**

BHÍ CLAONADH ANN, ar feadh i bhfad, neamhshuim nó beag is fiú a dhéanamh de thionchar an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda ar stair na hÉireann.

Is furasta dearmad a dhéanamh go raibh an bhaint a bhí againn leis an gcogadh sin sa bhliain 1914 chomh mór sin nach fiú a bheith ag iarraidh a mhalairt a rá. Mar chuid d'Impireacht na Breataine, bhiomar páirteach go hoifigiúil sa chogadh - bhí an dá phríomhpháirtí polaitíochta ar an oileán, idir aontachtaithe agus náisiúnaithe, ar son an chogaidh; liostáil na deiceanna de mhílte go saorálach chun fónamh; fuair na mílte bás; agus bhí an geilleagar á bhainistiú mar a bheadh le linn cogaidh. D'fhéadfadh sé nach raibh an pobal an-tógtha faoin ábhar ach bhí an t-esaontú ar fad teoranta do mhionlaigh.

Tá sé tábhachtach a chuimhneamh gur saorálaithe, seachas coinscríofaigh, iad na deiceanna de mhílte a d'fhóin san arm. Le roinnt blianta anuas, tá scrúdú as an nua a dhéanamh ar chastacht na nithe a spreag iad, nó a d'áitigh orthu, chun liostáil go saorálach. I gcás na n-aontachtaithe, bhí cúiseanna soiléire nó simpli acu, b'fhéidir - mhothaigh siad go raibh féiniúlacht Bhriotanach acu agus bhí bá acu leis an impireacht, rud a d'fhág gur chosúil gurbh é an rud ceart le déanamh é.

Ach, i gcás na náisiúnaithe, ní raibh an cinneadh chun liostáil chomh simplí céanna. Ba náisiúnai é Tom Kettle agus liostáil sé mar gur cheap sé gurbh ionann impiriúlachas na Gearmáine agus bagairt don tsibhialtacht Eorpach, rud a cheap cuid mhór daoine eile ar bhealach éagsúla. Chuaigh an cruachas ina raibh an Bheilg, agus a raibh i ndán do náisiúin bheaga, i gcion ar dhaoine eile.

Ach, i gcás an chuid is mó náisiúnaithe - gan tuairim ag duine ar bith faoi cé chomh huafásach a bheadh an chogaiocht nua-aoiseach - d'fhéadfadh an Cogadh a bheith ina eachtra nó, thar aon ní eile, ina bhealach éalaithe ón mbochtaineacht threascrach.

Mar thoradh ar na hiarmhairtí gan choinne a bhain leis an gcogadh tháinig athrú ar gach rud. Mura mbeadh an cogadh ann, d'fhéadfadh sé go n-achtófaí Rialtas Dúchais faoin mbliain 1918 agus go mbeadh Parlaimint Éireannach ina suí i bhFaiche an Cholaíste, agus John Redmond ina phríomh-aire agus rialtas Éireannach ann i gCaisleán Bhaile Átha Cliath.

Nó, mura mbeadh an cogadh ann, d'fhéadfadh sé

FOR MANY DECADES, there has been a tendency to ignore or underestimate the impact of the First World War on the shaping of Irish history.

It is easy to forget that in 1914, our involvement in that war was as near total as makes no difference. As part of the British Empire we were officially at war - the two main political parties on the island, unionist and nationalist, supported the war; tens of thousands volunteered to serve; thousands died; and the economy was put on a war footing. Public opinion may not have been enthusiastic but outright opposition was confined to minorities.

It is important to remember that the thousands who did serve were volunteers, not conscripted. In the last few years, we have been rediscovering the complexity of motive which encouraged or persuaded them to volunteer. For unionists, the reasons were perhaps obvious or straightforward - their self-identification as British, their attachment to empire, which made it seem the natural thing to do.

But for nationalists, the decision to volunteer was not so straightforward. Tom Kettle, a nationalist, volunteered because he saw German imperialism as a threat to European civilization, as in different ways did many others. Others were influenced by the plight of Belgium and the fate of small nations.

But for most nationalists, the War - and nobody had any idea of the hideous thing modern war fare would become - could be seen as an adventure, or most of all an escape from grinding poverty.

The unforeseen consequences of the War changed everything. Had there been no war, Home Rule might have been enacted by 1918 and an Irish Parliament sitting in College Green, with John Redmond as prime minister and an Irish government in Dublin Castle.

Or, had there been no War, there might well have been a North-South civil war. Or, to prevent such an occurrence, some form of partition might have been close at hand.

Without the War and the opportunity it provided, 1916 would not have happened, or at least not in the way it did. There would have been no 1916 reprisals... no martyrs... no mass imprisonments... there would have been no threat of conscription to radicalize thousands... And much more.

go mbeadh cogadh cathartha Thuaidh-Theas ann. Nó, chun teagmhas den sórt sin a sheachaint, d'fhéadfadh sé nárbh fhada go mbeadh cineál éigin críochdheighilte ann.

Gan an Cogadh, agus gan an deis a chuir sé ar fáil, ní bheadh imeachtaí na bliana 1916 ann nó, ar a laghad, ní bheidís ann sa tsli inar tharla siad. Ní bheadh aon dioltas 1916 ann ... ní bheadh aon mhairtirigh ann ... ní bheadh aon ollphríosúnú ann - ní bheadh aon bhagairt i leith coinscríobh ann chun radacú a dhéanamh ar na mílte daoine ... Agus a lán rudaí eile nach iad.

Ach tharla an Cogadh agus rinne sé athrú ó bhonn ar an tírdhreach polaitíochta. Agus, laistigh de roinnt blianta, tháinig staid nua chun cinn.

Ba réadúlacht í an chríochdheighilt. Cuireadh tús le Stát an Tuaiscirt, rud a thug faoiseamh don daonra aontachtach a bhí méáite ar an aontas a choimeád ar bun agus rud a bhí ina ábhar éadóchais do náisiúnaithe a raibh tréimhe fhada coimhthis i ndán dóibh.

Ní raibh an chríochdheighilt, uaithi féin, ina cúis le hathrú ar an gcaidreamh idir náisiúnaithe agus aontachtaíthe ar an oileán. Ach, mar thoradh ar an gcríochdheighilt, rinneadh cineál domhain-reo ar an gcaidreamh a bhí ann, gan aon iarracht rómhór maidir le comhthuiscint a bhaint amach ná aon dóchúlacht go mbeadh comhoibriú nó athmhuintearas ann, ar nithe iad sin a bheadh ina n-ábhar uafáis blianta fada ina dhiaidh sin.

Bhí ar an stát nua a tháinig chun cinn tar éis Chogadh na Saoirse cogadh cathartha searbh a fhulaingt lena chinntiú go mairfeadh sé féin. Ach níorbh fhada go raibh fréamhacha daingne ann agus, faoin mbliain 1923, bhí an stát nua ina bhall de Chonradh na Náisiún.

Ach bhí oidhreacht mharthanach shearbh ann mar thoradh ar an gCogadh Cathartha agus d'fhág sé sin a rian ar an staid pholaitíochta a bhí ag teacht chun cinn.

But the War did happen and it utterly changed the political landscape. And yet within a short few years, a whole new situation had emerged.

Partition was now a reality. The Northern State came into being, to the relief of a unionist population determined to maintain the union, and to the despair of nationalists now destined to decades of alienation.

Partition, of itself, did not change relationships between nationalists and unionists on the island. But it did put existing relationships into a sort of deep freeze, with little attempt at mutual understanding or any possibility of co-operation or rapprochement and with consequences, which would be devastating decades later.

The new state, which emerged from the War of Independence, had to endure a bitter civil war to ensure its own survival. But it quickly put down secure roots and by 1923, was a full member of the League of Nations.

But the price of Civil War was a lasting and bitter legacy, which profoundly shaped the emerging political situation.

And in all of this, there was little space or warmth for the thousands of Irish servicemen who returned home to Ireland after the War. In some respects, their lot was little different to that of ex-servicemen in other countries who returned to unemployment and neglect but for many, there was a sense of no longer belonging, of being strangers in their own land, no longer being fully welcome.

The events and passions which fuelled much of Irish politics in these years were not unique to Ireland. Issues such as self-determination, nationalist aspirations, communal enmities, civil war, and the redefining relationships between former colonial masters and new states, were common right across Europe and few were resolved to mutual satisfaction. In many cases, war and unrest persisted for decades or even longer.

Agus, mar gheall ar na cúinsi sin ar fad, ní raibh mórán spáis ná báúlachta ann do na mílte saighdiúirí a tháinig abhaile go hÉirinn tar éis an Chogaidh. Ar bhealaí áirithe, bhí a n-eispéireas rud beag éagsúil le heispéireas iarshaighdiúirí i dtíortha eile a tháinig ar ais chuig difhostaíocht agus neamart, is é sin, mhothaigh na saighdiúirí Éireannacha easpa muintearais, mhothaigh siad gur strainséirí iad ina dtír féin agus mhothaigh siad nach raibh fáilte iomlán rompu.

Ní rud uathúil a bhain le hÉirinn amháin iad na himeachtaí agus an díograis a spreag cuid mhór de na nithe a tharla i saol polaitíochta na hÉireann sna blianta sin. Ba rudai coitianta iad ar fud na hEorpa saincheisteanna amhail féinriail, mianta náisiúnacha, naimhdis idirphobail, cogadh cathartha agus athshainiú an chaidrimh idir iarmháistí coilíneacha agus stáit nua, agus is beag an líon saincheisteanna díobh sin a réitíodh chun sástacht na bpáirtithe go léir. I gcuid mhór cásanna, lean an chogaíocht agus an t-achrann go ceann i bhfad.

In Éirinn, bhí cuid mhór fadhbanna le réiteach ach, ar a laghad, faoin mbliain 1923, bhí síocháin ann, d'ainneoin gur síocháin mhíshocair a bhí ann uaireanta. Ní raibh sé éasca caidreamh an Stáit nua leis an mBreatain a athbhunú ós rud é nach raibh an Bhreatain in ann déileáil le hÉirinn mar pháirtí combhionann, agus bhí an caidreamh idir an dá rialtas ar oileán na hÉireann doicheadallach neamhbháúil - ach, ar a laghad, bhí struchtúir ann ina rabhtas in ann feidhmiú.

Chabhraigh na cuimhneacháin agus an taighde atá déanta le deich mbliana anuas go mór ó thaobh tuiscint níos fearr a fháil ar chastacht na saincheisteanna sin ina n-iomláine agus ó thaobh breathnú orthu ar bhealach oscailte eolasach. Táthar ag súil go leanfar den taighde i gcomhréir le meon saibhrithe comhthuisceana.

In Ireland, many problems remained to be resolved but at least by 1923, peace was restored, however uneasy it might be at times.

The re-ordering of the new State's relationship with Britain was not made easy by its inability to treat Ireland as an equal, and relations between the two governments on the island of Ireland were frosty and unsympathetic – but at least there were structures within which to work.

The commemorations and research of the past decade has helped enormously to understand better the full complexity of these issues, and to see them in an unblinkered and informed way. It is to be hoped that the research will continue with an enriched sense of mutual understanding.

Leac uaighe Saighdiúir de chuid
an Chogaidh Mhóir gan ainm,
atá curtha i Reilig Mhíleata
Ghráinseach Ghormáin (Baile
Átha Cliath).

Headstone of an unnamed
Soldier of the Great War, buried in
Grangegorman Military Cemetery
(Dublin).



An Ró-Onórach Sir Jeffrey Donaldson MP
Cathaoirleach, Coiste Thuaisceart Éireann ar Chothrom
Céad Bliain an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda
The Right Honourable Sir Jeffrey Donaldson MP
Chairman, Northern Ireland First World War
Centenary Committee

TÁ SPÉIS MHÓR mharthanach ann i láthair na huaire i dTuaisceart Éireann sa chomóradh céad bliain a bhaineann leis an gCéad Chogadh Domhanda. Cé go bhfuil na hUltaigh go léir a bhí páirteach sa choinbhleacht sin marbh anois, níor ligeadh a seirbhís ná a n-iobairt i ndearmad riamh.

Is iad imeachtaí na tréimhse deich mbliana inar tharla an cogadh a mhúntaigh forbairt an oileáin seo agus, dá bharr sin, bhí an saol polaitíochta in Éirinn sa 100 bliain ó shin i leith casta agus dúshlánach agus is minic a bhí sé trodach. Ar an drochuair, ar feadh an chuid is mó de na blianta ó bhí an cogadh ann, bhí comóradh an chogaidh agus an siombalachas a bhain leis, ina gcúis le deighilt seachas aontacht le haghaidh roinnt daoine. Is fíor sin go háirithe i gcás Thuaisceart Éireann, áit a raibh comóradh an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda, sa chuid is mó den 100 bliain seo caite, ina ghníomhaíocht de chineál a bhain le ‘aontachtaithe’ amháin, nach mór.

Ach is é ár gcomhstair atá i gceist agus ní ceart go mbeadh an cuimhneachán a dhéanaimid ar na fir agus ar na mná ón dá thraidisiún ar an oileán seo a throid agus a cailleadh sa chogadh sin ina bpointe deighilte eadrainn. D’fhéach an Coiste i dTuaisceart Éireann le haghaidh a thabhairt air sin trí dhiriú ar théamaí cúplacha an chuimhneacháin agus an athmhuintearais ar mhaithe le héirim ár gcuid oibre a shocrú. Chuir na cuimhneacháin deis ar fáil chun caidreamh níos forleithne a bhunú ar fud oileán na hÉireann d’fhonn tacú le gníomhaíochtaí dreamanna eile, d’fhonn páirt a ghlacadh in imeachtaí agus in ócáidí agus d’fhonn feabhas a chur ar an iontaoibh agus ar an tuiscint i ngach uile phobal.

Le sé bliana anuas, tá cuid mhór laethanta speisialta caite againn in éineacht a chéile. Bhí imeachtaí beagscála teachlaigh ann, amhail nochtadh chloch chuimhneacháin Chros Victoria i gcuimhne ar George Boyd-Rochfort i mBaile Chaisleán na nGeochagán, chomh maith le himeachtaí níos mó ná sin amhail an tseirbhís chuimhneacháin i nDroichead na hInse agus cuimhneacháin an Somme in Thiepval sa bhliain 2016.

THE CENTENARIES ASSOCIATED with the First World War have had a very strong and enduring contemporary interest in Northern Ireland. Although all those from Ulster who took part in that conflict have since passed away, their service and sacrifice has never been forgotten.

The decade that included the war has shaped the development of this island and as a consequence, the politics of Ireland in the 100 years since have been complex, challenging and often confrontational. Sadly, for most of the intervening years since the war, its commemoration and associated symbolism have, for some, been a cause for division rather than unity. That is particularly true of Northern Ireland, where commemoration of the First World War for the majority of the last 100 years was at times an almost exclusively ‘unionist’ activity.

However, this is our shared history and our remembrance of the men and women from both traditions on this island who fought and fell in that war should not be a point of division between us. The Committee in Northern Ireland sought to address this by focusing on the twin themes of remembrance and reconciliation to set the tone for our work. The commemorations offered an opportunity to engage much more widely across the island of Ireland in order to support the activity of others, to share in events and engagements and improve trust and understanding across all communities.

Over the last six years, we have shared many memorable days together. There have been small family events like the unveiling of a commemorative Victoria Cross stone for George Boyd-Rochfort at Castletown-Geoghan, as well as larger events such as the memorial service at Islandbridge and the Somme commemorations at Thiepval in 2016.

There have been special moments that not long ago would have been unthinkable. Royal Princes and Dukes paying respect to Ireland's dead in the company of military musicians from both the British and Irish Armies. The Colours of the Royal Irish Regiment paraded in Dublin alongside their comrades in Óglaigh na hÉireann, and Defence Forces pipers playing at Belfast City Cenotaph.

Bhí ócáidí ar leith ann a bheadh doshamhlaithe tamall gairid ó shin. Prionsaí agus Diúcanna rioga ag tabhairt ómóis do shaighdiúirí marbha na hÉireann i gcuideachta ceoltóirí míleata ó Arm na Breataine agus ó Arm na hÉireann araon. Bratacha na Reisiminte Ríoga Éireannai á n-iompar i mBaile Átha Cliath taobh lena gcomrádaithe ó Óglaigh na hÉireann, agus piobairí de chuid na bhFórsaí Cosanta ag seinm ag Leacht Cuimhneacháin Chathair Bhéal Feirste.

Níorbh ionann na hócáidí sin agus rudai siombalach amháin ach tá tuiscint, caoinfhulaingt agus meas níos doimhne tar éis teacht uathu. Tá caidreamh curtha ar bun a bhfuil a luach soiléir cheana féin agus is caidreamh é a mhairfidh. Níl aontachtacht ná náisiúnachas aon duine laghdaithe dá bharr sin.

Is díol suntais ar leith é áit amháin i gcomparáid le háiteanna eile agus tá focal ar leith tuillte ag an áit sin. Tá Reilig Ghlas Naíon tar éis ról uathúil a bheith aici sna cuimhneacháin seo. Tá spás álainn, díniteach, fáilteach curtha ar fáil ag foireann na reilige ansin chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar Éireannaigh a throid sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda. Rinne sé sin athrú ó bhonn i dtaca le dáimh mharthanach agus cuimhni marthanacha ar chomhiobairt a dhaingniú. Tá misneach agus fis léirithe acu tri chuimhneacháin Chogadh Domhanda a hAon a shuíomh i ndlúthghaireacht d'uaigheanna Uí Chonaill, Uí Dhonnabháin Rosa agus Uí Choileáin agus d'uaigheanna an oiread sin pearsana tábhachtacha a bhí lárnach i scéal náisiúnachas na hÉireann.

Is cinnte gur i nGlas Naíon atá spiorad fhocail an Chaptaein Willie Redmond le fáil, ar focail iad a scríobhadh i ngeimhreadh na bliana 1916 tar éis ár an Somme;

Far from being purely symbolic, a deeper understanding, tolerance and respect has flowed from these occasions. Relationships built that have already proved their worth and will last. No one's unionism or nationalism is diminished as a result.

One place stands out above all others and merits special mention. Glasnevin Cemetery has played a unique role in these commemorations. The team there have provided a beautiful, dignified and welcoming space to commemorate those from Ireland who fought in the First World War. This has been transformational in cementing enduring bonds and memories of shared sacrifice. They have shown courage and vision in siting the World War One memorials in close proximity to the resting places of O'Connell, O'Donovan Rossa, Collins and so many of the iconic and important figures central to the Irish nationalist story.

Surely at Glasnevin is to be found the embodiment of Captain Willie Redmond's words written in the winter of 1916 after the carnage of the Somme;

*'It would be a fine memorial to the men who have
died so splendidly if we could, over their graves,
build up a bridge between North and South'*

Tá roinnt mhaith cothromdhátaí conspóideacha agus cuimhneachán pianmhar le bheith ann sna blianta atá díreach romhainn. D'ainneoin na ndúshlán leanúnach polaitíochta, b'fhéidir gur féidir linn aghaidh a thabhairt ar an tréimhse sin agus sinn i riocht níos fearr ná roimhe seo chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na saincheisteanna casta seo ar bhonn caoinfhulaingthe agus meas frithpháirteach.

The next few years hold their fair share of contentious anniversaries and painful memories. Despite continuing political challenges, perhaps we enter that period better placed than before to address these complicated issues on a basis of tolerance and mutual respect.



An tUachtarán Mhic Ghiolla Íosa agus an Bhanríon Elizabeth II agus bláthfhleasca cuimhneacháin á leagan acu i nGairdíní Náisiúnta Cuimhneacháin Cogaidh na hÉireann (18.05.2011)

President McAleese and Queen Elizabeth II laying wreaths of remembrance at the Irish National War Memorial Gardens (18.05.2011)

**John Green – Cathaoirleach
Iontaobhas Ghlas Naíon
John Green – Chairman
of Glasnevin Trust**

SA BHLIAIN 2007, mar thoradh ar thaighde a rinne Starai Reilig Ghlas Naíon, Shane Mac Thomáis, ar thaismigh Chogadh Domhanda I atá curtha i nGlas Naíon, agus mar thoradh ar aghaidheanna nua i gCoimisiún Uaigheanna Cogaidh an Chomhlathais (CWGC), tionscnaiodh comhthionscadal nuálach chun gach uaigh ar leith de chuid na dtaismeach a mharcáil.

Rinneadh an chéad cheann de na clocha cinn a nochtadh ar an 11 Samhain 2009 le linn searmanas beagscála a clúdaíodh go forleathan sa phreas agus ar an teilifís. In eagarfhocal san Irish Times an lá dár gcionn, rinneadh machnamh ar an searmanas agus bhí na focail 'They are Irish too' ann mar chuid deiridh den eagarfhocal sin. Rud ar cuireadh tús leis mar chomhpháirtíocht de chineál ciúin neirbhiseach idir sinne agus an CWGC, tá sé tar éis forbairt ina ghaolmhaireacht an-fholláin agus bíonn duine sinsearach de chuid an Choimisiúin i láthair i gcónaí anois i nGlas Naíon i mí na Samhna le haghaidh ár seirbhíse.

Ba é an tionscadal seo chun uaigheanna ar leithligh thaismigh Chogadh Domhanda I a mharcáil a spreag cuid mhór den fhorbairt atá déanta ar Reilig Ghlas Naíon – is é sin, seoid de chuid stair na hÉireann a raibh drochbhail uirthi a thiontú ina hionad bisiúil do staraithe agus do chuairteoirí araon agus i á húsáid i gcónaí mar reilig lánfheidhmiúil. Tar éis clocha cinn an CWGC a shuiteáil, mharcáil Cumann Náisiúnta na nUaigheanna uaigheanna na nÓglach Éireannach de chuid na tréimhse lena mbaineann, ar uaigheanna iad a bhí taobh lena chéile uaireanta, rud nach rabhthas ag súil leis. Chumasaigh an tionscadal seo dúinn cuid de stair chasta an oileáin seo sa tréimhse sin a insint, trí scéalta na ndaoine atá curtha anseo a insint gan aon bhreithiúnas a thabhairt ina leith agus trí ligean do na cuairteoirí teacht ar a gcuid tuairimí féin. Agus an cúlra sin á chur san áireamh, is minic a bhí cuimhneacháin ar Óglaigh agus ar Fhíúsailéirí ann ar an lá céanna.

Ar an 31 Iúil 2014, nocht Uachtarán na hÉireann, Mícheál D. Ó hUiginn, agus A Mhórgacht Ríoga, Diúc Kent, Uachtarán Choimisiún Uaigheanna Cogaidh an Chomhlathais, Cros Iobhartha CWGC. De ghnáth, suiteáiltear an Chros Iobhartha i reiligi ina bhfuil 40 uaigh CWGC. Is i an Chros atá ann i nGlas Naíon an chéad cheann dá chineál sa dlinse seo. Ba é a bhí sa searmanas

IN 2007, RESEARCH undertaken by the Glasnevin Cemetery Historian, Shane MacThomáis, on the casualties of World War I buried in Glasnevin, together with new faces in the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC), led to an innovative joint project to mark the casualties' graves individually.

The first of the headstones was unveiled on 11th November 2009 at a small ceremony, which received considerable press and TV coverage. An Irish Times editorial the following day reflected on the ceremony, ending with the evocative words 'They are Irish too'. What began as a slightly reticent and nervous partnership between us and the CWGC has developed into an extremely healthy relationship and a senior member of the Commission attends Glasnevin each November for our service.

This project to mark the individual graves of the casualties of World War I was a catalyst for so much in the development of Glasnevin Cemetery - from a neglected gem of Irish history to a thriving centre for historians and tourists alike, while remaining a working cemetery. The placing of the CWGC headstones led to the National Graves Association and others marking the graves of Irish Volunteers of the period, serendipitously often side by side. This project enabled us to relate part of the complex history on this island at that time, simply by telling the stories of those buried here, without judgement, leaving the visitor to draw their own conclusions. Against this background, we have often seen Volunteer and Fusilier commemorations taking place on the same day.

On July 31st 2014, a CWGC Cross of Sacrifice was unveiled by the President of Ireland, Michael D Higgins, and HRH the Duke of Kent, President of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. The Cross of Sacrifice is usually placed in cemeteries where there are 40 CWGC graves. The Cross in Glasnevin is the first of its kind in this jurisdiction. The unveiling ceremony was the official State commemoration to mark the commencement of World War I. The inclusiveness of the cemetery was underscored when the official 1916 centenary commemorations commenced, almost one year after the unveiling of the Cross of Sacrifice; with a State commemoration to mark the centenary of the funeral of O'Donovan Rossa taking place on 1st August 2015 at his graveside.

nochta ná an cuimhneachán oifigiúil Stáit chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar thús Chogadh Domhanda I. Tarraingíodh aird ar uilechuimsitheacht na reilige tráth ar cuireadh tús leis na cuimhneacháin oifigiúla i leith na bliana 1916, beagnach bliain amháin tar éis nochtadh na Croise Íobhartha; bhí cuimhneachán Stáit ann ar an 1 Lúnasa 2015 ag uaigh Uí Dhonnabháin Rosa chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar a shochraid.

Sa bhliain 2014, rinneadh an chéad leac pábhála Chros Victoria riamh a nochtadh i nGlas Naíon. Ba bhronntanas ó Rialtas na Ríochta Aontaithe iad na leaca don cheantar inar rugadh faighteoir na Croise. I gcás oileán na hÉireann, cinneadh go ndéanfaí na leaca go léir a shuiteáil in ionad lárnach i nGlas Naíon thart ar an gCros Íobhartha. Comhaontaíodh freisin go bhféadfadh comhairlí contae nó teaghlaigh ar leithligh a iarraidh go dtabharfaí aitheantas d'fhaighteoirí ar leith ina gcuid comharsanachtaí féin agus go ndéanfaí leaca breise a chur ar fáil. Amhail an 11 Samhain i mbliana, tá 35 leac pábhála ann i nGlas Naíon agus tá seacht gcinn eile ann in áiteanna eile. Tharraing na searmanais nochta aird athuair ar éagsúlacht ollmhór na staire a bhaineann le Glas Naíon. Ina theannta sin, léiríonn scéalta ar leithligh fhaighteoirí Chros Victoria éagsúlacht na nÉireannach a bhí páirteach sa trodaíocht i rith Chogadh Domhanda I. Bhí na searmanais iad féin ilchineálach – bhí roinnt mór-ócáidí ann, amhail cuairt an Phrionsa Charles, agus bhí ócáidí eile ann de chineál dlúthphearsanta a bhí ina n-ócáidí teaghlaigh beagnach.

I samhradh na bliana 2015, chuir Rialtas na Fraince togra faoi bhráid Rialtas na hÉireann agus Iontaobhas Ghlas Naíon, is é sin, togra maidir le Leacht Cuimhneacháin na Fraince-na hÉireann a chur in airde i nGlas Naíon. Leis an leacht cuimhneacháin sin, tugtar aitheantas don mhéid a rinne an oiread sin Éireannach, idir fhir agus mná, agus don íobairt a rinne siad, le linn an Fhrainc a chosaint sa Chogadh Franc-Phrúiseach, i gCogadh Domhanda I agus i gCogadh Domhanda 2. Fad a bhí an plé fós ar siúl faoi dhearadh an leachta cuimhneacháin, tharla an t-uafás in Amharclann Bataclan ar an 13 Samhain 2015. D'iarr an tUachtarán Hollande ansin go mbeadh ról ag an College des Beaux Arts Supérieur sa tionscadal seo chun aitheantas a thabhairt do na mic léinn dá chuid a maraíodh san ionsaí. Roghnaigh seisear mac léinn dealbhóireachta,

In 2014, the very first Victoria Cross paving stone was unveiled in Glasnevin. The stones are a gift from the UK Government to the area where the recipient was born. For the island of Ireland, it was decided that all of the stones would be centrally located in Glasnevin around the Cross of Sacrifice. It was also agreed that individual councils or families could request that particular recipients be recognised in their localities and additional stones would be provided. As of 11th November of this year, there are 35 paving stones in Glasnevin and 7 others placed locally. The unveiling ceremonies highlighted once again the extraordinary depth of history in Glasnevin. The individual stories of the Victoria Cross recipients also reveal the diversity of the Irish who fought in WW1. The ceremonies themselves have been diverse – with some great occasions, such as the visit of Prince Charles, and others being intimate, almost family affairs.

In the summer of 2015, the French Government approached the Irish Government and Glasnevin Trust with a proposal to erect the France–Ireland Memorial in Glasnevin. This memorial recognises the contribution and sacrifice by so many Irish men and women, in the defence of France, in the Franco Prussian War, World War I and World War 2.

While design discussions were still underway, the atrocity at the Bataclan Theatre took place on 13th November 2015. President Hollande then requested that the College des Beaux Arts Supérieur become involved in this project to recognise the loss of some of their students in that attack. Six sculpture students, led by their Professor Patrice Alexandre, chose the stone from McKeon's of Stradbally and they spent weeks in Glasnevin completing the difficult engraving process. Unfortunately, the Nice atrocity on Bastille Day in 2016 prevented President Hollande himself unveiling the Memorial on his visit to Dublin. Each year, the French Government hopes to mark Bastille Day with a ceremony at the Memorial where they will remember individual recipients of the Légion d'Honneur who are buried in Glasnevin.

Back in 2007, when the Trust embarked on its journey to prepare itself for the Decade of Centenaries, it was not clear where that journey would take us. The Decade has acted as a guide for us and enabled us to tell so many stories and to reflect the complexity of the

faoi stiúradh a n-Ollaimh, Patrice Alexandre, cloch ó McKeon Stone sa Sráidbhaile agus chaith siad roinnt seachtainí i nGlas Naion agus iad i mbun an phróisis dheacair greanadóireachta. Ar an drochuair, mar thoradh ar uafas Nice ar Lá Bastille sa bhliain 2016, ní raibh an tUachtarán Hollande é féin in ann an Leacht Cuimhneacháin a nochtadh le linn a chuairte ar Bhaile Átha Cliath. Tá súil ag Rialtas na Faince go mbeidh siad in ann Lá Bastille a chomóradh gach bliain tri shearmanas a reáchtáil ag an Leacht Cuimhneacháin i gcuimhne ar fhaighteoirí ar leithligh an Légion d'Honneur atá curtha i nGlas Naion.

Siar sa bhliain 2007, nuair a chuaigh an tIontaobhas i mbun a chuid oibre i gcomhair Dheich mBliana na gCuimhneachán, níor léir cén treo ina rachaidís. Tá Deich mBliana na gCuimhneachán tar éis fónamh mar threoir dúinn agus tá sé tar éis a chumasú dúinn cuid mhór scéalta a insint agus machnamh a dhéanamh ar chastacht na coimhlinte ar son na saoirse ar an oileán seo. Le fírinne, níor cheapamar go mbeadh luaíocht chomh mór sin le fáil ó imeachtaí cuimhneacháin Chogadh Domhanda I ach is cinnte go bhfuarthas luaíocht uathu agus, mar thoradh ar an bpróiseas ar fad, tá obair thábhachtach agus ról an Iontaobhais saihhrithe go mór.

struggle for independence on this island. In truth, we did not expect the commemoration of World War I events to be so rewarding but it certainly has been and, in the process, greatly enriched the important work and role of the Trust.



Cros na hÍobartha,
Reilig Ghlas Naion.

Cross of Sacrifice,
Glasnevin Cemetery.



Leacht Cuimhneacháin
na Fraince - na hÉireann,
Reilig Ghlas Naion.

The France - Ireland
Memorial, Glasnevin
Cemetery.

Lt. Thomas M. Kettle

'Used with the wisdom that is sown in tears and blood, this tragedy of Europe may be and must be the prologue to the two reconciliations of which all statesmen have dreamed, the reconciliation of Protestant Ulster with Ireland, and the reconciliation of Ireland with Great Britain.'

As: The Ways of War, 'Why Ireland Fought', lch71. T.M. Kettle

Ar an 9 Meán Fómhair 2016, ghníomhaigh an tAire Charlie Flanagan T.D. mar ionadai an Rialtais ag searmanas ag Faiche Stiabhna chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar bhás an Leifteanaint Thomas M. Kettle. Fuair an tIar-Fheisir Náisiúnach, a bhí ina iriseoir, ina fhile agus ina léachtóir, bás ar an 9 Meán Fómhair 1916, le linn dó a bheith i gceannas ar a chuid saighdiúirí i bhFiúsailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath agus iad ag cosaint shráidbhaile Ginchy sa Fhrainc.

From: The Ways of War, 'Why Ireland Fought', p71. T.M. Kettle

On 9th September 2016, Minister Charlie Flanagan T.D. represented the Government at a ceremony in St. Stephen's Green to commemorate the death of Lt. Thomas M. Kettle. The former Irish Nationalist MP, journalist, poet and lecturer died on 9th September 1916, while leading his men of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers in the defence of the French village of Ginchy.



Dealbh Thomas Kettle
(Faiche Stiabhna).
Thomas Kettle Statue
(St Stephen's Green).

**Brian Duffy – Cathaoirleach an 'Léigiúin
Ríoga Bhriotanaigh i bPoblacht na hÉireann**
**Brian Duffy – Chairman of the Royal British
Legion Republic of Ireland**

I DTÍORTHA EILE, TÁ AN Cuimhneachán ar cheann de na gnéithe is sainiúla dá bhfuil d'oidhreacht an Chéad Chogadh Domhanda. Bhí comharthaí le fáil a léireadh nach amhlaidh an scéal in Éirinn chomh luath le mí na Samhna 1916, tráth ar thuairiscigh an Maor-Ghinearál Sir William Hickie, Oifigeach Ginearálta Ceannais an 16ú Rannán (Éireannach), ar Caitlicigh go formhór a bhaill, gurbh é ba mhó ab ábhar imní dá shaighdiúirí ná an easpa paidreacha sna heaglaisí sa bhaile ar son anama a gcuid comrádaithe marbha.

Tháinig na saighdiúirí sin abhaile mar iarshaighdiúirí de chuid na Breataine tráth a raibh an cheannairc in aghaidh an airm ar fhóin siad ann ag méadú. D'fhan daoine ina dtost i dtaca le meas a léiriú ar a seirbhís agus ar a n-iobairt. Mar thoradh ar imeachtaí sa bhaile, ba é a bhi i gcinniúint na hÉireann ná náisiún le brón príobháideach gan mórán méala ná cuimhneacháin oifigiúil.

Ach ní fhéadfaí neamhshuim a dhéanamh de chostas sóisialta na coinbhleachta uafásaí sin. Fuair beagnach 35,000 fear óg Éireannach bás agus, i dtaca leis na hiarshaighdiúirí a tháinig abhaile, bhí cuid mhór acu gortaithe nó míchumasaithe. Ní bheadh mórán teaghlach ann nach rachadh an staid sin i gcion orthu. Ghlac iarshaighdiúirí an Léigiúin Bhriotanaigh ról tábhachtach tacaíochta agus chabhraigh siad go ciúin leis na teaghlaigh a bhí i gceist trína 130 brainse Éireannach. Fuair siad cúnamh fíor-riachtanach óna Ranna Ban a raibh tábhacht ar leith acu maidir le cisti leasa a bhailiú agus maidir leis an achainí bhliantúil 'Poipini'. Faoin mbliain 1938, bhí méid na gcisti 'Poipini' a bhí á ndáileadh in Éirinn níos mó ná €3 mhilliún, agus tháinig cuid mhór den tacaíocht sin ón Ríocht Aontaithe.

Tar éis an Chogaidh Chathartha tháinig méadú mór ar thinreamh sheirbhísí Lá an tSosa Cogaidh agus daoine go léor ag tabhairt aitheantas dá gcaillteanas mór. Ba é an ceann is iomráití díobh sin an tseirbhís i bPáirc an Fhionnuisce, i mBaile Átha Cliath, áit ar chuir an Léigiún Briotanach Cros Ginchy in airde agus ina raibh na mílte iarshaighdeoirí i láthair. Ach níor tógadh ach líon measartha beag leachtanna cuimhneacháin i spásanna poiblí. Sa bhliain 1938, tógadh Leacht breá Cuimhneacháin Náisiúnta Cogaidh le haghaidh an 32 chontae ar fad i nDroichead na hInse ach níor osclaíodh go hoifigiúil é riamh agus tháinig meath air de réir a

IN OTHER PLACES REMEMBRANCE is one of the most clearly defined legacies of the First World War. Signs that this might not be so in Ireland came as early as November 1916, when Major General Sir William Hickie, General Officer Commanding the mainly Catholic 16th (Irish) Division, reported that the major concern of his soldiers was the absence of prayers in the churches at home for the souls of their fallen comrades.

These soldiers came home as British war veterans at a time of mounting insurgency against the army they served in. Approbation of their service and sacrifice would be muted, and Ireland was fated by events to be a nation of private grief with little official mourning or remembrance.

However, the social cost of that terrible conflict could not be disregarded. Nearly 35,000 young Irish men had died and many returned veterans had been injured or disabled. Few families would be unaffected. The British Legion veterans assumed a key supportive role and quietly helped those families affected through its 130 Irish branches. They were indispensably assisted by their Women's Sections, who were especially important in raising welfare funds and organising the annual Poppy Appeal. Poppy funds dispensed in Ireland exceeded the equivalent of €3 million a year by 1938, with much of this support coming from the United Kingdom.

After the Civil War, Armistice Day services became hugely well attended as people acknowledged their great loss. The most notable of these was in Dublin's Phoenix Park, where each year the British Legion erected the Ginchy Cross and thousands of veterans attended. But comparatively few memorials would be built in public spaces. In 1938, a fine National War Memorial for all 32 counties was erected at Islandbridge but was never officially opened and slowly deteriorated over the next 50 years.

Across the decades, the British Legion, later augmented by Ireland's World War 2 veterans, faithfully championed Ireland's Remembrance, never political and ever vigilant of the sensitivities of Remembering, especially during the difficult years of the Troubles in Northern Ireland. The journey towards peace and reconciliation on the island of Ireland facilitated a new openness to remembering and valuing the soldiers of Ireland. The shared experience and fraternity shown

chéile thar an 50 bliain ina dhiaidh sin.

Thar na blianta, bhí an Léigiún Briotanach dílis don Chuimhneachán Éireannach, agus d'ainneoin líon na n-iarshaighdiúirí a bheith méadaithe de bharr an dara Cogadh Domhanda, níor éirigh siad polaitiúil riamh agus lean siad de bheith cúramach i gcónaí maidir le hiogaireacht an Chuimhneacháin, go háirithe i rith bhlianta deacra na dTrioblóidí i dTuaisceart Éireann. D'éascaigh an ghluaiseacht i dtreo síochána agus athmhuintearais ar oileán na hÉireann oscailteacht nua i leith cuimhneachán a dhéanamh, agus meas a léiriú, ar shaighdiúirí Éireannacha. Ní dhearna an lucht déanta síochána beag is fiú den chomheispéireas agus den bhráithreachas a léirigh an 16ú Rannán (Éireannach) agus an 36ú Rannán (Ulaidh) i gCath an Somme agus i gCath Messines. B'ionann oscailt Pháirc Síochána Oileán na hÉireann in Messines sa Bheilg, agus athchóiriú Leacht Chuimhneacháin Cogaidh Dhroichead na hInse sa bhliain 1988, agus clocha míle i leith admháil oifigiúil maidir le dlísteacht an Chuimhneacháin in Éirinn.

Sa bhliain 2006, chuaigh Rialtas na hÉireann i gcomhairle leis an Léigiún Ríoga Briotanach den chéad uair maidir leis an gCuimhneachán i leith Chothrom 90 Bliain Chath an Somme, is é sin, an chéad chuimhneachán Stáit ag an Leacht Cuimhneacháin Náisiúnta Cogaidh. Glacadh chomh fabhrach sin leis an ngníomh comhroinnte cuimhneacháin sin gur áiritheigh Uachtarán an Léigiúin in Éirinn, an Maor-Ghinearál 'The O'Morchoe', go leanfaí den chomhoibriú idir an Rialtas agus an Léigiún Ríoga Briotanach ionas go mbeadh Cuimhneachán Somme ann gach bliain ar an Satharn roimh Lá Cuimhneacháin Náisiúnta na hÉireann.

Sa bhliain 2016, thug Rialtas na hÉireann aitheantas feiceálach do dheich mbliana de dhlúthchomhar le linn a Chomórtha Céad Bliain ar Chath an Somme nuair a bronnadh príbhléid shainiúil ar Léigiún Ríoga Briotanach na hÉireann agus ar Léigiún Ríoga Briotanach Thuaisceart Éireann i leith a mBratacha a chur ar paráid le linn searmanas oifigiúil Stáit.

Bhí tábhacht ar leith ag clár 'Deich mBliana na gCuimhneachán' maidir leis an tsli ina bhféachtar ar ár mairbh chogaidh 'Briotanacha' agus ina dtuigtear an tragóid a bhaineann lenár gcaillteanas náisiúnta. Mar thoradh ar ghinealas ar líne, bhíodhas in ann teacht ar scéalta a bhí i bhfolach roimhe seo maidir le

by the 16th (Irish) and 36th (Ulster) Divisions at the Battles of the Somme and Messines was not lost on the peacemakers. The opening of the Island of Ireland Peace Park at Messines in Belgium and restoration of the Islandbridge War Memorial in 1988 were milestones in the official acknowledgement of the legitimacy of Irish Remembrance.

In 2006, the Irish Government first consulted the Royal British Legion on the 90th Anniversary Commemoration of the Battle of the Somme, the first commemoration by the State at the Irish National War Memorial. This act of shared public remembrance was so well received that the President of the Legion in Ireland, Major General The O'Morchoe, secured an ongoing collaboration between the Government and the Royal British Legion for an annual Somme Commemoration on the Saturday preceding the Irish National Day of Commemoration.

In 2016, a decade of close collaboration was conspicuously acknowledged by the Irish Government at its Somme Centenary Commemoration, when the Royal British Legion from Ireland and Northern Ireland, was given the distinct privilege of parading its Standards at an official State ceremony.

The 'Decade of Centenaries' programme has been especially important in reframing how our 'British' war dead are viewed and appreciating the tragedy of our national loss. Online genealogy enabled a major rediscovery of previously hidden stories of family involvement in WW1. Local communities have sought to capture and commemorate this sacrifice across Ireland's towns and townlands. This reflects a process of Remembrance that occurred elsewhere some 90 years ago but was postponed in post-revolutionary Ireland.

The visit of our patron, Queen Elizabeth II, to the Garden of Remembrance in May 2011 exemplified the importance of respecting Republican perspectives. The Legion appreciates the opportunities, afforded by the State, to be officially represented at key centenary events marking the foundation of the State.

rannpháirtíocht teaghlach sa Chéad Cogadh Domhanda. Tá iarrachtaí déanta ag pobail áitiúla an iobairt a rinneadh a thaifeadadh agus a chomóradh i mbailte móra agus i mbailte fearainn ar fud na hÉireann. Tagann seo leis an bpróiseas cuimhneacháin a tharla i dtíortha eile thart ar 90 bliain ó shin ach a cuireadh siar in Éirinn sa tréimhse iar-réabhlóide.

Thaispeáin cuairt ár bpátrúin, an Bhanríon Elizabeth II, ar an nGairdín Cuimhneacháin i mí Bhealtaine 2011 an tábhacht a bhaineann le meas a thabhairt ar an dearcadh Poblachtach. Is mór ag an Léigiún na deiseanna atá curtha ar fáil ag an Stát chun ionadaíocht oifigiúil a bheith aige ag imeachtaí tábhachtacha comórtha céad bliain bhunú an Stáit.

Le fada an lá, tá an Léigiún Briotanach in Éirinn ag iarraidh a bheith asamhlaithe i gcroinic an Stáit. Sa bhliain 1929, seo a leanas a dúirt an chéad Uachtarán ar an Léigiún Briotanach in Éirinn, an Seanadóir Éireannach, an Ginearál Sir William Hickie, in aitheasc a thug sé os comhair slua ag Leacht Cuimhneacháin nua i Luimneach;

The desire of the British Legion in Ireland for assimilation into the chronicle of the State is longstanding. In 1929, the first President of the British Legion in Ireland and Irish Senator, General Sir William Hickie, addressed the crowd at the new Limerick War Memorial thus;

“What we want most in Ireland to-day is that brotherly spirit which will recognise that we are all Irishmen of one great family, who are striving according to our lights, to do the best for the country which we love”



Iarshaighdiúirí Éireannacha, idir fhir agus mhná, ag teacht le chéile ag Leacht Wellington (Páirc an Fhionnuisce) ar Lá an tSosa Cogaidh 1926.

Irish Ex Service Men and Women gathering at the Wellington Monument (Phoenix Park) on Armistice Day 1926.

Tá an Léigiún buíoch dá lucht tacaíochta a bhfuil cuimhneachán déanta acu in éineacht linn agus a bhfuil cabhair tugtha acu dúinn chun cúram a thabhairt d'iarshaighdiúirí Éireannacha le blianta fada anuas. Táimid bródúil as ár ról i leith coimirciú a dhéanamh ar chuid d'oidhreacht na hÉireann agus táimid ag tnúth le páirt a ghlacadh i ndeiseanna nua i gcomhair cuimhneachán comhroinnte níos leithne in Éirinn, anois agus amach anseo.

Ar eagla go ndéanfaimis dearmad.

The Legion is grateful to our supporters who remembered with us and helped us care for Irish veterans across the decades. We take pride in our safeguarding of part of Ireland's heritage and we look forward to participating in new opportunities for a greater shared Irish Remembrance, now and in the future.

Lest We Forget.



Bratacha an Léigiúin Ríoga Bhriotanaigh á nIompar i nGairdíní Náisiúnta Cuimhneacháin Cogaidh na hÉireann (Droichead na hInse) ar an 07.07.2018.

Royal British Legion Standards on Parade at the Irish National War Memorial Gardens (Islandbridge) on 07.07.2018.

Leascheannaire Francis Ledwidge Lance Corporal Francis Ledwidge

Then in the lull of midnight, gentle arms
Lifted him slowly down the slopes of death
Lest he should hear again the mad alarms
Of battle, dying moans, and painful breath.

And where the earth was soft for flowers we made
A grave for him that he might better rest.
So, Spring shall come and leave it seet arrayed,
And there the lark shall turn her dewy nest.

Ina dhán, dar teideal A Soldier's Grave, chum Ledwidge go tochtmhar freagairt lách saighdiúirí i leith duine dá gcomrádaithe a fuair bás.

Ar an 24 Meitheamh 2017, bhí an tAire Helen McEntee T.D. i gceannas ar an ionadaíocht oifigiúil ag searmanas i mBaile Shláine, Co. na Mí, chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar an Leascheannaire Francis Ledwidge, file, saorálaí agus saighdiúir Éireannach, a fuair bás i gCath Passchendaele ar an 31 Iúil 2017.

In his poem, A Soldier's Grave, Ledwidge movingly composed the gentle response of soldiers to the loss of one of their comrades.

On 24th June 2017, Minister Helen McEntee T.D. led the official representation at a ceremony in Slane, Co. Meath, to commemorate Lance Corporal Francis Ledwidge, the poet, Irish volunteer and soldier, who died in the Battle of Passchendaele on 31st July 2017.



“... Some of the people who know me least imagine that I joined the Army because I knew men were struggling for higher ideals and great empires, and I could not sit idle to watch them make for me a more beautiful world. They are mistaken. I joined the British Army because she stood between Ireland and an enemy common to our civilization, and I would not have her say that she defended us while we did nothing at home but pass resolutions...”

Sliocht as litir dar dáta an 6
Meitheamh 1917 ó Francis Ledwidge
chuig an Ollamh Lewis Chase.
Extract from letter of 6th June 1917
from Francis Ledwidge to Professor
Lewis Chase



An Leascheannaire
Francis Ledwidge.
Lance Corporal
Francis Ledwidge.

Cuimhneacháin Céad Bliain chun Dul i dTír in Gallipoli a Chomóradh Centenary Commemorations to mark the Gallipoli Landings

MEASTAR GO RAIBH 4,000 fear Éireannach ann i measc an 130,000 duine a maraíodh le linn fheachtas Gallipoli a mhair ó mhí Aibreáin 1915 go mí Eanáir 1916. Bhí trí reisimint Éireannacha de chuid Arm na Breataine san áireamh sna chéad reisimintí a rinne ruathar ar na tránna agus bhí 1,000 taismeach ann in imeacht tréimhse chomh gearr le ceithre lá.

Cé go bhfuil comóradh maith déanta ar ról na hÉireann i scéal Gallipoli i stair náisiúnta na hAstráile, na Nua-Shéalainne agus na Tuirce, rinneadh dearmad thar am ar an ról sin in Gallipoli de réir mar a bhí Éirí Amach 1916 agus na himeachtaí a lean as ag tarlú. Fágadh scéalta na bhfear a maraíodh le linn dóibh a bheith ag troid ar an bhfronta Tuirceach agus scéalta na n-uafás a d'fhulaing siad i bhfolach, a bheag nó a mhór, de réir mar a tháinig athrú ar an seanord in Éirinn go deo.

Sa bhliain 2015, rinneamar comóradh ar na saighdiúirí Éireannacha a fuair bás in Gallipoli, agus thugamar ómós dóibh, trí shearmanais a reáchtáil in Éirinn agus thar lear. D'fhreastail Uachtarán na hÉireann, Micheál D. Ó hUiginn, ar shearmanais ar Leithinis Gallipoli i mí Aibreáin 2015 chun cothrom céad bliain dul i dtír in Gallipoli a chomóradh, lena n-áirítear na searmanais seo a leanas:

- Searmanas Cuimhneacháin na Tuirce ag Leacht Cuimhneacháin Mehmetçik;
- Comhchuimhneachán an Chomhlathais/na hÉireann ag leacht cuimhneacháin Cape Helles;
- Searmanas Cuimhneacháin na Fraince ag Leacht Cuimhneacháin agus Reilig na Fraince;
- Seirbhís bhreacadh an lae ANZAC i gcuimhne ar an líon mór Éireannach chéad ghlúine a chuaigh i dtír agus a cailleadh in Gallipoli mar bhaill d'fhórsaí na hAstráile agus na Nua-Shéalainne;
- Seirbhís Cuimhneacháin na hAstráile ag Lone Pine;
- Seirbhís Cuimhneacháin 57ú Reisimint na Tuirce; agus
- Seirbhís Cuimhneacháin na Nua-Shéalainne ag Chunuk Bair.

IT'S ESTIMATED THAT 4,000 Irish men were among the 130,000 casualties who lost their lives during the Gallipoli campaign, which lasted from April 1915 to January 1916. Three Irish regiments of the British Army were among the first to storm the beaches, suffering 1,000 casualties in just four days.

While well remembered in the national histories of Australia, New Zealand and Turkey, the Irish role in Gallipoli was largely forgotten over time as the 1916 Rising and its aftermath unfolded back home swiftly afterwards. The stories of the men who were killed fighting on the Turkish front and the horrors that they endured largely faded into the shadows, as the old order changed forever in Ireland.

In 2015, we remembered and paid tribute to the Irish soldiers who lost their lives at Gallipoli, with ceremonies at home and abroad. The President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, attended ceremonies on the Gallipoli Peninsula in April 2015, to commemorate the centenary of the Gallipoli landings, including:

- The Turkish Commemoration Ceremony at the Mehmetçik Monument;
- The joint Commonwealth/Ireland Commemoration at the Cape Helles Monument;
- The French Commemoration Ceremony at the French Memorial and Cemetery;
- The ANZAC dawn service in memory of the many first generation Irishmen who landed and lost their lives at Gallipoli as members of the Australian and New Zealand forces;
- The Australian Memorial Service at Lone Pine;
- The Turkish 57th Regiment Memorial Service; and
- The New Zealand Memorial Service at Chunuk Bair.

Ina theannta sin, thug an tUachtarán Ó hUiginn cuairt ar an reilig ag V Beach, áit a ndéantar cuimhneachán ar chuid mhór Éireannach a maraíodh le linn dóibh dul i dtír.

Bhi ionadaithe de chuid an Rialtais i láthair ag cuimhneacháin a seoladh in Éirinn chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar chothrom 100 bliain fheachtas Gallipoli, lena n-áirítear seirbhís bhreacadh an lae ANZAC i Reilig Mhíleata Ghráinseach Ghormáin, ar seirbhís i a d'eagraigh Ambasáid na hAstráile, agus seirbhís cuimhneacháin agus athmhuintearais in Ardeaglais Theampall Chríost, ar seirbhísí iad a d'eagraigh Cumann na Nua-Shéalainne /na hÉireann.

Ar an 23 Aibreán 2015, lainseáil an tAire Heather Humphreys T.D. láithreán gréasáin nua dar teideal The Irish in Gallipoli - <https://gallipoli.rte.ie/>. Is tionscnamh comhoibrioch é an láithreán gréasáin sin agus ba é Coláiste Bhostúin a d'ullmhaigh é i gcomhpháirtíocht le RTÉ agus lenár bhForais Chultúir Naisiúnta agus le maoiniúchán ón Roinn Cultúir, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta. Tugann an láithreán gréasáin léargas grinn ar na scéalta faoi shaighdiúirí Éireannacha, agus ar an méid a d'fhulaing siad, in Gallipoli agus caomhnaíonn sé an oidhreacht a d'fhág siad ina ndiaidh do na glúnta a bheidh ann amach anseo.

President Higgins also visited the cemetery at V Beach, where many Irish casualties of the landings are remembered.

The Government was represented at commemorations in Ireland to mark the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign, including an ANZAC dawn service in Grangegorman Military Cemetery, hosted by the Australian Embassy, and a service of remembrance and reconciliation at Christchurch Cathedral, which was organised by the New Zealand/ Ireland Association.

On 23rd April 2015, Minister Heather Humphreys T.D. launched a new website, The Irish in Gallipoli - <https://gallipoli.rte.ie/>. This website is a collaborative initiative, produced by Boston College in partnership with RTÉ and our National Cultural Institutions, and funded by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The website vividly illuminates the stories and the suffering endured by the Irish soldiers in Gallipoli and preserves their important legacy for generations to come.



Sa phictiúr ó chlér go deas, Sir Joe French, Leas-Chathaoirleach Choimisiún Uaigheanna Cogaidh an Chomhlathais, A Mhórgacht Ríoga, an Prionsa Charles, Uachtarán Phoblacht na Tuirce a Oiríceas Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Uachtarán na hÉireann Micheál D. Ó hUiginn agus A Mhórgacht Ríoga, an Prionsa Harry, ag Leacht Cuimhneacháin Helles, Gallipoli, an Tuirc, ag searmanas an Chomhlathais agus na hÉireann chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar Fheachtas Gallipoli.

Pictured from left Sir Joe French, Vice Chairman of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, HRH Prince Charles, President of the Republic of Turkey H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins and HRH Prince Harry at Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey, at the Commonwealth and Ireland service to Commemorate the Gallipoli Campaign.

Cuimhneacháin Céad Bliain chun Cath an Somme a Chomóradh Centenary Commemorations to mark the Battle of the Somme

THOSAIGH CATH AN Somme ar an 1 Iúil 1916 agus lean sé ar aghaidh go dtí mí na Samhna, tráth ar chuir an aimsir isteach air. I rith an 141 lá a mhair an feachtas, meastar go raibh os cionn aon mhilliún taismeach ar fad ann ar an dá thaobh. Ní féidir líon na dtaismeach Éireannach a bhí ina measc a ríomh go cruinn ach goilleadh go mór ar phobail ar fud oileán na hÉireann – maraíodh os cionn 3,500 saighdiúir óg Éireannach agus goineadh cuid mhór eile.

Maidir leis na saighdiúirí de chuid an 36ú Rannán (Ulaidh) a maraíodh i rith na gcéad chúpla uair an chloig den trodaíocht, bhain beagnach 2,000 duine diobh le pobal na n-aontachtaíthe i sráidbhailte, i mbailte agus i gcathracha ar fud chúige Uladh. I Meán Fómhair, maraíodh 1,200 saighdiúir de chuid an 16ú Rannán Éireannach agus ba as na trí chúige eile formhór na saighdiúirí sin. De bhreis ar na saighdiúirí sin a maraíodh, maraíodh saighdiúirí Éireannacha eile a bhí ag troid i rannáin eile.

Ar an 1 Iúil 2016, d'fhreastail Uachtarán na hÉireann, Micheál D. Ó hUiginn, ar an bpríomhcuimhneachán a bhí ann chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar chothrom céad bliain Chath an Somme – is é sin, searmanas a seoladh ag Leacht Cuimhneacháin Thiepval agus a bhí á óstáil go comhpháirteach ag an bhFrainc agus ag an Ríocht Aontaithe.

Ina theannta sin, leag an tAire Heather Humphreys T.D. bláthfhleasca thar ceann Rialtas na hÉireann ag Cros Ginchy in Guillemont, ar cros i atá ann i gcuimhne ar an 16ú Rannán (Éireannach) agus ag Túr Uladh, soir ó thuaidh ó Thiepval, i gcuimhne ar thaismigh an 36ú Rannán (Ulaidh).

In Éirinn, ar an 9 Iúil 2016, eagraíodh cuimhneachán Stáit i gcomhar le Léigiún Ríoga Briotanach na hÉireann i nGairdíní Náisiúnta Cuimhneacháin Cogaidh na hÉireann, Droichead na hInse. Leag an tUachtarán Ó hUiginn bláthfhleasc thar ceann mhuintir na hÉireann i gcuimhne ar na taismigh Éireannacha a d'fhóin agus a thug a mbeatha sa chogadh.

Chomh maith leis sin, chuimsigh Clár an Stáit i leith Chothrom Céad Bliain Chath an Somme raon tionscnamh éagsúil de chineál staire, cultúir, oideachais agus pobail a eagraíodh chun a n-ionad ceart sa stair a thabhairt do na saighdiúirí Éireannacha a throid agus a fuair bás i gCath an Somme.

THE BATTLE OF the Somme began on 1st July 1916 and continued until November, when the weather intervened. Over the 141 days of the campaign, it's estimated that over one million casualties from both sides were lost. The number of Irish casualties cannot be calculated with certainty but communities across the island of Ireland were devastated – over 3,500 young Irish soldiers were killed and many more wounded.

In the first few hours of fighting, almost 2,000 of the soldiers from the 36th (Ulster) Division who died came from the unionist community in villages, towns and cities across the province of Ulster. In September, 1,200 soldiers from the 16th Irish Division were killed, drawn mainly from the other three provinces. Added to these losses were the Irish soldiers who fought in other divisions.

On 1st July 2016, the President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, attended the principal commemoration to mark the centenary of the Battle of the Somme – a ceremony at the Thiepval Monument, jointly hosted by France and the United Kingdom.

Minister Heather Humphreys T.D. also laid wreaths on behalf of the Irish Government at the Ginchy Cross in Guillemont, which stands in remembrance of the 16th (Irish) Division and at the Ulster Tower, north-east of Thiepval, in memory of the casualties from the 36th (Ulster) Division.

At home, on 9th July 2016, a State commemoration was organised in collaboration with the Royal British Legion Republic of Ireland, in the Irish National War Memorial Gardens, Islandbridge. President Higgins laid a wreath on behalf of the people of Ireland in memory of the Irish casualties who served and gave their lives.

The State's Battle of the Somme Centenary Programme in 2016 also comprised a rich diversity of historical, cultural, educational and community initiatives to give the Irish soldiers who fought and who died in the Battle of the Somme their rightful place in history.

In 2016, we remembered those who fought abroad as well as those who died in the Easter Rising at home. In doing so, we gained a more complete understanding of what it meant to be Irish in 1916 and the transforming impact of the tumultuous events of that year on families and communities across the island of Ireland.

Sa bhliain 2016, chomh maith leis an gcuimhneachán orthu siúd a fuair bás le linn an Éirí Amach in Éirinn, chuimhníomar ar na daoine a throid thar lear. Ar an dóigh sin, fuaireamar tuiscint níos iomláine ar cad a bhí i gceist le hÉireannachas sa bhliain 1916 agus ar thionchar claothlaitheach imeachtaí corraitheacha na bliana sin ar theaghlaigh agus ar phobail ar fud oileán na hÉireann.



Óglaigh na hÉireann agus páirt á glacadh acu le linn Chuimhneachán Céad Bliain Chath an Somme, i nGairdíní Náisiúnta Cuimhneacháin Cogaidh na hÉireann, Droichead na hInse, ar an 09.07.2016.

Defence Forces participation in the Battle of the Somme Centenary Commemoration, Irish National War Memorial Gardens Islandbridge on 09.07.2016.

Cuimhneacháin Céad Bliain chun Cath an Somme a Chomóradh Centenary Commemorations to mark the Battle of Messines Ridge

SA BHLIAIN 1917, BHÍ SAIGHDIÚIRÍ de chuid an 16ú Rannán (Éireannach) agus an 36ú Rannán (Ulaidh), a bhí comhdhéanta go formhór de dhaoine as na Saorlaithe Náisiúnta agus as Óglaigh Uladh faoi seach, ag troid taobh lena chéile, agus thug siad a mbeatha taobh lena chéile, mar chomrádaithe le linn Chath Messines. Ba é sin an chéad uair i rith an chogaidh go raibh an dá aonad ag troid taobh lena chéile. Tá an cuimhneachán atá á dhéanamh ar shaighdiúirí aontachtacha agus náisiúnacha, a raibh easaontas ollmhór eatarthu in Éirinn agus a chuir an t-easaontas sin ar leataobh ar mhaithe le cuspoir comhroinnte, tar éis teacht chun bheith ina shiombail thábhachtach athmhuintearais ar oileán na hÉireann.

Ar an 7 Meitheamh 2017, bhí an Taoiseach, Éanna Ó Cionnaith T.D., A Mhórgacht Rioga, Diúc Cambridge agus Banphrionsa Astrid na Beilge i láthair ag cuimhneacháin i bPáirc Sióchána Oileán na hÉireann chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar chothrom céad bliain thús Chath Messines. Ba iad Rialtais na hÉireann agus na Ríochta Aontaithe a d'egraigh an searmanas go comhpháirteach, rud a rinneadh i gcomhar le Méara Messines.

Thaistil an Taoiseach agus Diúc Cambridge go Reilig Wytschaete ansin, áit ar leag siad bláthfhleasca ag bun Chros Chuimhneacháin an 16ú Rannán (Éireannach). Ina theannta sin, thug an Taoiseach cuairt ar uaigh an Mhaoir William (Willie) Redmond MP in Lore.

Ar an 11 Meitheamh 2017, leag an tAire Heather Humphreys T.D. bláthfhleasc, thar ceann an Rialtais, ag Leacht Cuimhneacháin an Chogaidh in Ard Mhacha i gcuimhne ar fhir an 16ú Rannán Éireannach agus an 36ú Rannán (Ulaidh) a throid taobh lena chéile ag Cath Messines. Ba é Brainse Chathair Ard Mhacha an Léigiúin Rioga Bhriotanaigh a reáchtáil an searmanas sin.

Bhí na cuimhneacháin sin – ar oileán na hÉireann agus sa Bheilg – ina n-ócáidí an-suntasach i dtaca le próiseas an athmhuintearais agus i dtaca le cothú sióchána mar gur thug siad deis dúinn machnamh a dhéanamh le chéile ar mheon an mhuintearais a bhí ann i measc na bhfear sin a throid agus a thug a mbeatha taobh lena chéile 100 bliain ó shin.

IN 1917, THE 16th (Irish) Division and the 36th (Ulster) Division, largely composed of soldiers from the Irish National Volunteers and the Ulster Volunteers respectively, fought and gave their lives side by side, as brothers in arms at the Battle of Messines Ridge. It was the first occasion during the war that both units had fought alongside each other. Remembrance of unionist and nationalist soldiers, diametrically opposed at home, setting aside their differences to share a common purpose, has become an important symbol of reconciliation on the island of Ireland.

On 7th June 2017, the Taoiseach Enda Kenny T.D., HRH the Duke of Cambridge and Princess Astrid of Belgium, jointly attended commemorations at the Island of Ireland Peace Park to mark the centenary of the start of the Battle of Messines Ridge. The ceremony was jointly organised by the Irish and UK Governments in partnership with the Mayor of Messines.

The Taoiseach and the Duke of Cambridge then travelled to Wytschaete Cemetery, where they laid wreaths at the foot of the 16th (Irish) Division Memorial Cross. The Taoiseach also visited the grave of Major William (Willie) Redmond MP in Lore.

On 11th June 2017, Minister Heather Humphreys T.D. laid a wreath on behalf of the Government at the War Memorial, Armagh, to commemorate the men of the 16th Irish Division and the 36th (Ulster) Division who fought side by side at the Battle of Messines Ridge. This ceremony was hosted by the City of Armagh Branch of the Royal British Legion.

These commemorations – on the island of Ireland and in Belgium – were very significant in furthering the path of reconciliation and peace-building, as together we reflected upon the spirit of kinship embodied by those men who fought and died side by side 100 years ago.



An Taoiseach, an tUas. Éanna Ó Cionnaith TD, Diúc Cambridge agus Banphrionsa Astrid na Bèilge ag freastal ar chuimhneacháin Chath Messines Ridge sa Bheilg (07.06.2017).

The Taoiseach, Mr Enda Kenny TD, the Duke of Cambridge and Princess Astrid of Belgium attending commemorations at Wytschaete Military Cemetery for the Battle of Messines Ridge in Belgium (07.06.2017).



Baill de na Fórsaí Cosanta agus de Reisimint Ríoga na hÉireann ar paráid ag Páirc Síochána Oileán na hÉireann, Messines, an Bheilg (07.06.2017).

Members of the Defence Forces and Royal Irish Regiment on parade at the Island of Ireland Peace Park, Messines, Belgium.



Colúin Cuimhneacháin,
Páirc Síochána Oileán
na hÉireann, Messines,
an Bheilg.

Pillars of Remembrance,
Island of Ireland Peace
Park, Messines, Belgium.

Quiet Eyes Katharine Tynan

*The boys come home, come home from war,
With quiet eyes for quiet things –
A child, a lamb, a flower, a star,
A bird that softly sings.*

*Young faces war-worn and deep-lined,
The satin smoothness past recall;
Yet out of sight is out of mind
For the worst wrong of all.*

*As nightmare dreams that pass with sleep,
The horror and grief intolerable.
The unremembering young eyes keep
Their innocence. All is well!*

*The worldling's eyes are dusty dim,
The eyes of sin are weary and cold,
The fighting boy brings home with him
The unsullied eyes of old.*

*The war has furrowed the young face.
Oh, there's no all-heal, no wound-wort!
The soul looks from its hidden place
Unharméd, unflawed, unhurt.*

Rugadh an file, Katharine Tynan, sa bhliain 1861 ag Feirm Dhéiríochta an Halla Bháin, Cluain Dolcáin, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath. Le linn Chogadh Domhanda I, d'fhóin beirt leanaí dá cuid le Reismint Ríoga na hÉireann agus le Fiúsailéirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath. Tháinig an bheirt acu abhaile slán sábháilte.

The poet, Katharine Tynan, was born in 1861 at Whitehall Dairy Farm, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin. Two of her children served in World War I, with the Royal Irish Regiment and the Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Both returned safely.

Gairdíní Náisiúnta Cuimhneacháin Cogaidh na hÉireann The Irish National War Memorial Gardens

TÁ GAIRDÍNÍ NÁISIÚNTA Cuimhneacháin Cogaidh na hÉireann i nDroichead na hInse tiomnaithe do chuimhne a choinneáil ar na saighdiúirí Éireannacha a thug a mbeatha i rith an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda. Ba é an t-ailtire iomráiteach, Sir Edwin Lutyens, a dhear na Gairdíní agus tá léiriú le fáil iontu ar a stíl shimpli dinite, ar stíl fhoirmiúil i freisin, agus tá aitheantas idirnáisiúnta acu mar shampla suntasach d'ailtireacht an tírdheachaithe cuimhneacháin.

Tá leagan amach na nGairdíní lán de bhrí agus de shiombalachas, rud nach léir láithreach do chuairteoirí ócáideacha ach is rud é a thugann luaiocht dóibh siúd a bhíonn ag iarraidh teacht ar thuiscint níos mó ar intinn Lutyens. Tugann na Gairdíní teachtaireacht do chuairteoirí ar gach leibhéal, is é sin, daoine atá ag iarraidh teacht ar ionad le haghaidh machnamh ciúin i suíomh álainn gairdín, agus daoine atá ag iarraidh machnamh agus cuimhneachán a dhéanamh ar na hÉireannaigh, idir fhir agus mhná, a cailleadh sa mhórchoinbhleacht i dtosach an fichiú haois.

Rinneadh na Gairdíní a leagan amach idir na blianta 1933 agus 1939 agus bhí iarsaighdiúirí de chuid Airm na hÉireann agus na Breataine bainteach leis an leathchuid den saothar a bhí i gceist le tógáil na nGairdíní. Dá bhrí sin, ba thionscnamh fíorchomhoibríoch é chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar na hÉireannaigh a fuair bás mar thoradh ar chogaocht. Tríd is tríd, is ionann na gairdíní agus léiriú ar shiméadracht agus ar fhoirmiúlacht chlasaiceach agus is gairdíní iad ina bhfuil aibhinne crann, ciumhsóga bláthanna agus rósghairdíní íslithe le feiceáil.

Tá ceithre Sheomra Leabhar ann ina bhfuil na Leabhair Chuimhneacháin ina dtaifeadtar ainmneacha na marbh. Tá na Leabhair maisithe ag Harry Clarke, is é sin, ealaíontóir iomráiteach ghloine dhaite Bhaile Átha Cliath. Is féidir le cuairteoirí ar na Seomraí Leabhar ainmneacha teaghligh a chuardach sna Leabhair agus, go deimhin, asphrionta a fháil den leathanach iomchuí ina bhfuil an t-ainm a cuardaíodh, mar aon le léaráidí Harry Clarke ar imeall an leathanaigh lena mbaineann, a fháil saor in aisce. Ina theannta sin, tá Cros Ginchy ann sna Seomraí Leabhar, is é sin, cros adhmaid lena ngabhann Dearadh Ceilteach, atá 13 troithe ar airde agus a tógadh ar láthair an chatha, móide bailiúchán ina bhfuil déantáin eile a bhaineann leis an dá Chogadh Dhomhanda.

THE IRISH NATIONAL War Memorial Gardens at Islandbridge are dedicated to the memory of the Irish soldiers who gave their lives in the First World War. The Gardens, which were designed by the renowned architect Sir Edwin Lutyens, are characteristic of his style of simple yet formal dignity and are recognised internationally as a significant example of memorial landscape architecture.

The layout of the Gardens is laden with meaning and symbolism, which might not be readily obvious to the casual visitor but which rewards those who seek a greater appreciation of Lutyens' intent. The Gardens speak to visitors at all levels, from those seeking a place of quiet contemplation and reflection in a beautiful garden setting, to those wishing to reflect on and commemorate the Irish men and women who lost their lives in the great conflict of the early twentieth century.

The Gardens were laid out between 1933 and 1939, with half of the labour in their construction coming each from ex-servicemen of the Irish and British Armies. In this way, it was truly a collaborative undertaking to commemorate Ireland's war dead. As a whole, the gardens are an exercise in classical symmetry and formality, featuring tree avenues, herbaceous borders and sunken rose gardens.

Four Bookrooms contain the Books of Remembrance, in which are inscribed the names of the dead. The Books are illustrated by the renowned Dublin stained glass and illustrative artist, Harry Clarke. Visitors to the Bookrooms can look up family names in the Books and, indeed, obtain a printout of the relevant page containing the name in which they are interested and the Harry Clarke illustrations that border the page, free of charge. The Bookrooms also house the Ginchy Cross, a wooden cross of Celtic Design, some 13 feet high, which was constructed at the battlefield, plus a collection of other artefacts relating to both World Wars.

The War Memorial Gardens have been the setting for State commemorative events, attended by representatives of different traditions from across the island of Ireland and abroad, including Queen Elizabeth II in 2011.

Tá úsáid bainte as na Gairdíní Cuimhneacháin Cogaidh mar shuíomh le haghaidh imeachtaí cuimhneacháin Stáit a bhfuil freastal déanta orthu ag ionadaithe de chuid na dtraidisiún éagsúil atá ann ar fud an oileáin agus thar lear, lena n-áirítear an Bhanríon Elizabeth II sa bhliain 2011.

Gach bliain, baineann os cionn 400,000 cuairteoir taitneamh as na Gairdíní agus is iad Coimisinéirí na nOibreacha Poiblí a dhéanann cothabháil orthu agus a chuireann ar fáil don phobal iad de réir na gcaighdeán is airde, rud a dhéantar i gcomhar le hlontaobhaithe Choiste Náisiúnta na gCuimhneachán Cogaidh.

John McMahon
Coimisinéir
Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí

Annually, over 400,000 visitors enjoy the Gardens, which are maintained and presented to the highest possible standards by the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, in conjunction with the Trustees of the National War Memorial Committee.

Commissioner John McMahon
The Office of Public Works



Na Gairdíní Rós i
nGairdíní Náisiúnta
Cuimhneacháin Cogaidh
na hÉireann (Droichead
na hInse).

Irish National War
Memorial Rose
Gardens (Islandbridge).

Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann The National Library of Ireland

Is í fíis Leabharlann na hÉireann scéal na hÉireann a chomhroinnt leis an domhan trínár mbailiúcháin uathúla – is fíis í sin lena ngabhann buntaca i bhfoirm ár gcuid luachanna, is é sin le rá, fáilte, oscailteacht, uilechuimsitheacht agus comhoibriú. Bhí sé de phribhléid mhór againn comóradh a dhéanamh ar chothromdhátaí ócáidí de chuid Chogadh Domhanda I trí ghníomhaíochtaí a reáchtáladh i gcomhréir lenár bhfís agus lenár luachanna.

Le linn bhlianta an chuimhneacháin, leanamar de bheith ag bailiú na litreacha agus na ndialann, na ngríanghraf agus na láithreán gréasáin ina n-insítear scéal ról na hÉireann i gCogadh Domhanda I. I measc na nithe sin áirítear dialann an Leifteanaint Henry Douglas, ar chuimsigh a sheirbhís in aimsir chogaidh tréimhe ar fiannas i mBaile Átha Cliath agus in áiteanna eile in Éirinn le linn Éirí Amach na Cásca 1916, agus an taifead cuimhneacháin ar www.decadcofcentenaries.com, ar taifead é a tiomsaíodh mar chuid dár gclár cartlannaithe gréasáin, agus, chuige sin, bhailiomar na réada fisiciúla agus na réada digiteacha trína léirítear ár stair, idir an stair bheo agus cuimhni cinn ar an stair sin.

Ina theannta sin, chomhoibriomar le roinnt comhpháirtithe - Europeana, Colaiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath, RTÉ, Músaem Hunt, agus Leabharlanna Poiblí Loch Garman – ar shraith imeachtaí bailithe pobail de chineál tochtmhar uilechuimsitheach agus, mar chuid de na gníomhaíochtaí sin, chomhroinn daoine den phobal scéalta geanúla agus earraí cuimhneacháin a bhain le daoine dá sinsir a bhí páirteach i gCogadh Domhanda I.

Chuireamar clár taispeantas leathan ar fáil thar na 4 bliana. Bhí 'World War Ireland' ar siúl ón mbliain 2014 go dtí an bhliain 2018 i mBaile Átha Cliath agus mheall sé níos mó ná 160,000 cuairteoir chuige suas go dtí deireadh shamhradh na bliana 2018. Maidir le 'Portraits of the Invisible', inar baineadh leas as grianghraf agus scéalta a sainaitníodh mar chuid dár gclár bailithe pobail, bhí sé ar siúl inár gCartlann Grianghrafadóireachta Náisiúnta sa bhliain 2015, le tacaíocht ónár gcomhpháirtíocht le hAmbasáid na Breataine in Éirinn. Mar thoradh ar leaganacha taistil den dá thaispeántas sin, bhíodhas in ann an Leabharlann Náisiúnta a thabhairt chuig ionaid éagsúla ar fud na hÉireann. Trí imeachtaí, turais agus ceardlanna a chur ar fáil saor

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY of Ireland's vision is to share the story of Ireland with the world through our unique collections – a vision underpinned by our values of welcome, openness, inclusivity and collaboration. It has been our great privilege to commemorate the anniversaries of World War I through activities guided by our vision and values.

During the years of commemoration, we continued to collect the letters and diaries, photographs and websites, which tell the story of Ireland's involvement in World War I. From the diary of Lieutenant Henry Douglas, whose wartime service included active duty in Dublin and other parts of Ireland during the Easter Rising of 1916, to the commemorative record on www.decadcofcentenaries.com, captured as part of our web archiving programme, we collected the physical and digital objects that capture our history, both as it was lived and as it is remembered.

We also collaborated with a number of partners - Europeana, Trinity College Dublin, RTÉ, the Hunt Museum, and Wexford Public Libraries - on a series of moving and inclusive community collecting events, which saw the public share treasured stories and memorabilia of ancestors who had been involved in World War I.

We offered a wide-ranging exhibition programme over the 4 years. 'World War Ireland' ran from 2014 until 2018 in Dublin and attracted more than 160,000 visitors up to the end of the summer of 2018. 'Portraits of the Invisible', drawing on photographs and stories identified as part of our community collecting, ran at our National Photographic Archive in 2015, supported by our partnership with the British Embassy in Ireland. Travelling versions of both exhibitions brought the National Library to venues around Ireland.

Through free events, tours and workshops, we engaged with audiences from families and young children to active retirement groups. Visitors took regular public tours of World War Ireland, in English and Irish, while school groups and families explored the war through dedicated worksheets and workshops. Lifelong learners attended a packed seminar on Gallipoli and enjoyed regular lectures, spoken word and performance events like 'Words and Music from the War'; this featured readings and poems from the collections and a reading

in aisce, bhunaíomar caidreamh le daoine éagsúla a raibh teaghlaigh agus leanai óga agus grúpaí scoir ghníomhaigh ina measc. Ghlac cuairteoirí páirt i dturais phoiblí rialta maidir le World War Ireland, i mBéarla agus i nGaeilge, agus, chomh maith leis sin, rinne grúpaí agus teaghlaigh scrúdú ar an gcogadh trí shainleatháin oibre agus trí cheardlanna. D'fhreastail foghlaimeoirí ar feadh an tsaoil ar sheimineár faoi Gallipoli, ar seimineár é a raibh tinreamh an-mhór ann lena aghaidh, agus bhain siad sult as léachtaí rialta agus as imeachtaí focal labhartha agus taibhiúcháin amhail 'Words and Music from the War'; is é a bhí i gceist leis sin ná léitheoireachtaí agus dánta as na bailiúcháin agus léitheoireacht a rinne Ambasadóir na Breataine an tráth sin, Dominick Chilcott. Ina theannta sin, chomhroinn daoine d'fhoireann na Leabharlainne Náisiúnta a n-eispéireas trí chur i láthair a dhéanamh agus trí sheisiúin oiliúna a sheoladh.

Chabhraigh digitiú, meáin shóisialta agus leaganacha ar líne dár gcuid taispeántas linn an bailiúchán a chomhroinnt go forleathan agus bhiomar gníomhach i dtaca le spreagadh a thabhairt i leith ár n-ábhar digiteach a úsáid ar bhealaí nua, amhail an tsraith úrscéalta grafacha a cruthaíodh ar mhodh comhoibrioch lenár gcomhpháirtithe, Nerve Centre.

Ba ábhar bróid é don Leabharlann Náisiúnta a bheith in ann cabhrú leis an bplé náisiúnta faoi eispéireas na hÉireann i dtaca le Cogadh Domhanda I de, agus rannchuidiú le clár cuimhneacháin de chineál uilechuimsitheach comhoibrioch.

An Dr. Sandra Collins
Stiúrthóir

from then British Ambassador, Dominick Chilcott. National Library staff also shared their expertise through presentations and training sessions.

Digitisation, social media, and online versions of our exhibitions helped us to share the collections widely, and we actively encouraged use of our digital content in new ways, like the series of graphic novels created collaboratively with our partners, Nerve Centre.

The National Library has been proud to help shape the national conversation around Ireland's experience of World War I, contributing to an inclusive and collaborative commemoration programme.

Dr. Sandra Collins
Director

Sir John (Jack) Leslie
ag lánseáil 'World War
Ireland' (20.11.2014).

Sir John (Jack) Leslie at
the launch of 'World War
Ireland' (20.11.2014).



Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann The National Museum of Ireland

LE LINN COMÓRADH a dhéanamh ar Chogadh Domhanda a hAon, theastaigh ó Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann scrúdú a dhéanamh ar dhearthair nua agus súil eile a chaitheamh ar scéalta coitianta a bhí bainteach leis an tréimhse shuntasach seo inár stair. Rinneadh gach iarracht chun a chinntiú go mbeadh dóthain anna le haghaidh díospóireachta agus plé i measc na ndaoine a bhí ann rannpháirteach. Chuireamar romhainn cuid mhór guthanna a áireamh agus deiseanna gníomhaíochta agus rannpháirtíochta a chur ar fáil do leanai, d'aoisigh, do theaghlaigh, do dhaoine óga agus do phobail áitiúla eispéireas a fháil i leith Chogadh Domhanda I trí na healaiona cruthaitheacha. Scrúdaíomar téamaí, amhail tionchar an chogaidh agus na coinbhleachta ar shaol daoine, ról na cuimhne, agus oidhreacht Chogadh Domhanda I sa tsaoi chomhaimseartha. Ós rud é go rabhamar ag obair i gcomhpháirtíocht leis an bpobal, le ranna Rialtais agus le gníomhaireachtaí eile, bhíothas in ann acmhainní agus oileacht a chomhroinnt d'fhonn eispéiris ardechaighdeán Mhúsacim a chur ar fáil don oiread daoine agus ab fhéidir.

Ba é saibhreas na réad agus na dtéamaí iomchuí i dtaispeántais an Mhúsacim, amhail 'Guthanna Aisghafa: Scéalta na nÉireannach sa Chogadh 1914 – 1915', 'Saighdiúirí agus Taoisigh' agus 'Dearbhú na Poblachta: Éirí Amach 1916' a thug inspioráid le haghaidh ábhar chlár cuimhneacháin poiblí Chogadh Domhanda I an Mhúsacim inar áiríodh taispeántais, turais, cainteanna, taibhiúcháin, ceardlanna agus tionscadail de chineál níos fadtéarmaí.

Baineadh úsáid chumhachtach as na healaiona le linn dúinn scrúdú a dhéanamh ar Chogadh Domhanda I. Rinne mór amharclannaíochta tumthair dar teideal Pals – the Irish at Gallipoli, le ANU Productions, léiriú ar scéalta grúpa beag saighdiúirí a fuair traenáil sa Bheairic Rioga, ar a dtugtar Dún Uí Choileáin anois, sular sheol siad ó Bhaile Átha Cliath chun dul ag troid i gCath Gallipoli sa bhliain 1915. Tugadh cuireadh do scoileanna iar-bhunoidreachais taighde a dhéanamh faoi na hÉireannaigh in Gallipoli, agus na nithe a d'fhoghlaimois a léiriú trí fhilíocht, trí dhrámaíocht, trí amharc-ealaíona agus trí scannánaíocht agus taibhiúcháin agus taispeántais chumhachtacha a chur ar fáil chun léithear a dtuiscena ar Chogadh Domhanda I a léiriú. Chruthaigh mic léinn a raibh staidéar á dhéanamh

IN COMMEMORATING WORLD War One, the National Museum of Ireland wanted to explore new perspectives and look with fresh eyes at familiar histories associated with this significant time in our history. Every effort was made to ensure that there was plenty of time for debate and discussion among those who participated. We set out to be inclusive of many voices, and to provide active and participative opportunities for children, adults, families, young people and local communities to engage with World War I through the creative arts. We explored themes, such as the impact of war and conflict on people's lives, the role of memory, and the legacy of World War I on contemporary society. Working in partnership with the public, Government Departments, and other agencies, meant that we could pool resources and expertise to provide quality Museum experiences for as many people as possible.

The wealth of relevant objects and themes in the Museum exhibitions, 'Recovered Voices: The stories of the Irish at war 1914 – 1915', 'Soldiers and Chiefs' and 'Proclaiming a Republic: The 1916 Rising' inspired the content of the Museum's commemorative WW1 public programme, which included exhibitions, tours, talks, performances, workshops and longer term projects.

The arts were used to powerful effect in our exploration of World War I. A piece of immersive theatre, Pals – the Irish at Gallipoli, by ANU Productions, captured the stories of a small group of soldiers who trained at the Royal Barracks, now Collins Barracks, before sailing from Dublin to fight in the Battle at Gallipoli in 1915. Post primary schools were invited to research the Irish in Gallipoli, expressing their learning through poetry, drama, visual arts and film in a powerful production of performances and displays that reflected their depth of engagement with World War I. Students studying fashion design at the Limerick School of Art and Design created their own exhibition of amazing garments inspired by gas masks, rifles, 18th century soldiers' helmets and other objects from the Soldiers and Chiefs exhibition.

The programme encouraged lots of debate and discussion. Conferences were organised that brought together historians, curators and educators to debate the Irish, British and wider European experience and memory of World War I. As writer in residence, Dermot

acu ar fhaisean agus ar dhearthóireacht i Scoil Ealaine agus Dearaidh Luimnigh a dtaispeántas féin ina raibh baill éadaigh iontach ar taispeántas agus a bhfuarthas inspioráid ina leith ó na gásmhaisc, ó na raidhfíli, ó na clogaid 18ú haois agus ó réada eile a bhí ann sa taispeántas dar teideal Saighdiúirí agus Taoisigh.

Thug an clár spreagadh i leith cuid mhór diospóireachta agus plé a bheith ann. Eagraíodh comhdhálacha a thug staraithe, coimeádaithe agus oideoirí le chéile chun eispéireas agus cuimhne na hÉireann, na Breataine agus na hEorpa i gcoitinne i leith Chogadh Domhanda I a phlé. Ina cháil mar scríbhneoir cónaitheach, ghlac Dermot Bolger páirt i gclár bliana cainteanna, ceardlann agus tionscadal ar ghlac raon rannpháirtithe páirt iontu, lena n-áirítear leabharlannaithe, coimeádaithe, ealaiontóirí, foireann de chuid músaem agus pobail áitiúla. Mar chuid de chlár dar teideal *Ar an Taobh Eile de Shráid Sackville agus an Somme* i Músaem Shaol na Tuaithe, i gContae Mhaigh Eo, tugadh cuireadh do phobail áitiúla scrúdú a dhéanamh ar an tslí ina ndeachaigh Cogadh Domhanda I i gcion ar shaol daoine a raibh cónaí orthu i gceantair thuaithe na hÉireann.

Príomhchuspóir de chuid an chlár phoiblí ab ea diospóireacht a spreagadh maidir le fianaise nua a thabharfadh léargas úra don phobal i ndáil le Cogadh Domhanda I. Trí shraith cainteanna ag am lóin i rith na bliana 2016 sa Mhúsaem Seandálaíochta, chomhroinn cainteoirí na torthaí a d'éirigh as anailis a rinneadh le déanaí ar sheandálaíocht láithreacha catha agus tirdhreacha agus as suirbhéireachtaí seandálaíochta muirí sna farraigí amach ó chósta na hÉireann.

Bolger engaged in a year-long programme of talks, workshops and projects involving a range of audiences including historians, curators, artists, museum staff and local communities. At the Museum of Country Life, in Mayo, a programme called *Beyond Sackville Street and the Somme* invited local communities to explore how the lives of people who lived in rural Ireland were affected by WWI.

A key objective of the public programme was to encourage debate around new evidence that would give the public fresh insights into World War I. Through a series of lunchtime talks throughout 2016 at the Museum of Archaeology, speakers shared findings from recent analysis of battlefield and landscape archaeology, and maritime archaeological surveys in the seas around Ireland.

We asked for feedback throughout the past four years from those who participated in the Museum's commemorative programme. The response was overwhelmingly positive, with the public highlighting their increased level of understanding of World War I at an intellectual and emotional level from participation in the programme. Great numbers of the public attended events as well.

Lynn Scarff
Director

Tá aiseolas iarrtha againn ar fud na gceithre bliana seo caite ó na daoine a bhí páirteach i gclár cuimhneacháin an Mhúsaeim. Bhí an t-aiseolas sin dearfach den chuid is mó agus chuir an pobal in iúl go raibh tuiscint níos mó faighte acu ar Chogadh Domhanda I, ar leibhéal intleachtúil agus ar leibhéal mothúcháin, mar thoradh ar pháirt a ghlacadh sa chlár. Bhí líon an-mhór daoine den phobal i láthair ag imeachtaí freisin.

Lynn Scarff
Stiúrthóir



Dháil Ciste Nollag a Mórghachta Rioga, an Banphríonsa Mary, do Mhairnéalaigh agus do Shaighdiúirí os cionn 2 mhiliún bosca bróntanais ar fhir faoi fheisteas an Rí ar Lá Nollag 1914. Bhí clúdach ann sa bhosca agus dhá Chárta Nollag ann, mar aon le clúdach agus grianghraf den Bhanphríonsa Mary.

H.R.H. The Princess Mary's Sailors' and Soldiers' Christmas Fund distributed over 2 million gift boxes to men wearing the King's uniform on Christmas Day 1914. Inside the box was an envelope with two Christmas Cards and an envelope and photograph of Princess Mary.



Flaigín uisce soláthair miotail alrm, arna dhéanamh i mBeirlín, agus é greanta agus maisithe ag Albert Skirde (15.10.1914), ar sampla é de shaothar ealaíne Príosúnaigh Cogaidh Ghearmánaigh (Campa Príosúnach Cogaidh an Teampaill Mhoir, Éire).

Metal army supply water flask, made in Berlin, engraved and decorated by Albert Skirde (15.10.1914), as German Prisoner of War Art (Templemore Prisoner of War Camp, Ireland).

An Ceoláras Náisiúnta The National Concert Hall

Dé Sathairn, an 19 Samhain 2016

An Ceoláras Náisiúnta

'Cath an Somme'

Taispeáint scannáin mar aon le scór beo

Scannánaíodh agus taispeánadh 'Cath an Somme' sa bhliain 1916 agus ba é an chéad chlár faisnéise fada é dá ndearnadh faoi chúrsaí cogaidh. Scannánaíodh ar an bhfronta é, áit a raibh na fir cheamara i gcontúirt mhór, agus mar thoradh ar an scannán bhí nasc uathúil, agus nasc inláimhsithe nach mór, lena mbaill teaghlaigh ar láthair an chatha a chur ar fáil don lucht féachana. I rith na gcéad trí mhí tar éis é a eisiúint, chonaic thart ar 20 milliún duine é sa Bhreatain agus in Éirinn - is é sin, beagnach an leathchuid de dhaoine na n-oileán seo an tráth sin.

Ba ábhar bróid é don Cheoláras Náisiúnta a bheith in ann comhoibriú le roinnt comhpháirtithe, lena n-áirítear Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann, an Leabharlann Náisiúnta, an Músaem Cogaidh Impiriúil agus Ambasáid na Breataine, chun an clár faisnéise iontach ceannródaíochta a chur os comhair lucht féachana comhaimseartha, agus scór ceolfhoirne beo le Laura Rossi a chur ag gabháil leis, ar scór é a choimisiúnaigh Comhairle Ealaíon Shasana.

Saturday 19 November 2016

National Concert Hall

'The Battle of the Somme'

Film screening with live score

Shot and screened in 1916, The Battle of the Somme was the first feature length documentary about war. Filmed on the front line at great personal danger to the cameramen, the film offered audiences a unique, almost tangible link to their family members on the battlefield. In the first three months of its release, it was seen by around 20 million people in Britain and Ireland - almost half the population of these islands at the time.

The National Concert Hall was proud to collaborate with a number of partners, including the National Museum, the National Library, the Imperial War Museum and the British Embassy in bringing this extraordinary and ground-breaking documentary to a contemporary audience, accompanied by a live orchestral score by Laura Rossi specially commissioned by the Arts Council of England.

Íomhánna le Harry Clarke
as Taifid Chuimhneacháin
na hÉireann 1914 - 1918.

Images by Harry Clarke
from Ireland's Memorial
Records 1914 - 1918.



Déardaoin, an 16 Samhain 2017

Gailearai Náisiúnta na hÉireann

'In Flanders'

Ceadal amhránaíochta le Gavan Ring,
baratón, agus Aoife O'Sullivan, pianó

An Ceoláras Náisiúnta a d'cagraigh an ceadal seo lena reáchtáil i gcomhthráth le taispeántas an Ghailearai Náisiúnta dar teideal Iarmhairt: Tirdhreacha Cogaidh le William Orpen. Is é a bhí i gceist leis an gceadal ná ceol le George Butterworth, duine de na cumadóirí ceoil Briotanacha ba chumasai de chuid a ghlúine, ar mharaigh snipéir é le linn Chath an Somme agus é 31 bliain d'aois, ceol le Ivor Gurney a goineadh agus é ar fiannas sa bhliain 1917 agus, tar éis dó filleadh ar na trinsi, gásaíodh é agus tugadh urscaoileadh onórach dó níos déanaí an bhliain chéanna. Mar chuid den cheadal freisin, bhí an chéad taibhiú ann de shraith amhrán leis an gcumadóir Éireannach, Bernadette Marmion, ar amhráin iad atá bunaithe ar dhánta de chuid Francis Ledwidge, is é sin, an file a rugadh i gContae na Mí agus a maraíodh gar do Ypres, sa Bheilg, i mí Iúil 1917.

Thursday 16 November 2017

National Gallery of Ireland

'In Flanders'

A song recital by Gavan Ring, baritone
with Aoife O'Sullivan, piano

This recital was programmed by the National Concert Hall to coincide with the National Gallery's exhibition **Aftermath: The War Landscapes of William Orpen**. It featured music by George Butterworth, one of the most talented British composers of his generation, who was killed by a sniper at the Battle of the Somme, aged 31 and Ivor Gurney who was wounded in action in 1917 and having returned to the trenches was gassed and honourably discharged later the same year. Also included was the premiere performance of a song cycle by Irish composer Bernadette Marmion, based on poems by Francis Ledwidge, the Meath born poet who was killed near Ypres, Belgium, in July 1917.



Dé hAoine, an 9 Samhain 2018
An Ceoláras Náisiúnta
'War Requiem'
le Benjamin Britten
Ceolfhoireann Shiansach Náisiúnta RTÉ

Chun cothrom céad bliain Lá an tSosa a chomóradh seinnfidh Ceolfhoireann Shiansach Náisiúnta RTÉ 'War Requiem' le Benjamin Britten. Coimisiúnaíodh an saothar seo i gcuimhne ar bhuamáil Coventry i rith Chogadh Domhanda 2 agus, mar chuid den saothar, bhain Britten úsáid as naoi ndán de chuid Wilfred Owen, is é sin duine de na filí is mó urraim de chuid an Chogaidh Mhóir, lena chur san áireamh in aifreann na marbh i Laidin. Tugann sé sin léiriú suntasach uilíoch ar an bhfuath a bhí ag Britten ar chogadh agus ar a thuairim gur cheart go mbeadh an saothar ina rabhadh do na glúnta a bheadh ann ina dhiaidh sin faoin éigiall a bhaineann le dul chun troda in aghaidh daoine eile.

Simon Taylor
Príomhoifigeach Feidhmiúcháin

Friday 9 November 2018
National Concert Hall
'War Requiem'
by Benjamin Britten
RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra

To mark the centenary of Armistice Day the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra performs Benjamin Britten's War Requiem. Commissioned to commemorate the bombing of Coventry in World War 2, Britten used nine poems by Wilfred Owen, one of the revered poets of the Great War, to intersperse with the Latin requiem mass. This serves to underline Britten's abhorrence of war in a more universal way and his intention that the work should be a warning to future generations of the senselessness of taking up arms against fellow men.

Simon Taylor
Chief Executive Officer



An Gailearaí Náisiúnta na hÉireann The National Gallery of Ireland

LE CEITHRE bliana anuas, tá comóradh déanta ag an nGailearaí Náisiúnta ar Chogadh Domhanda I tri raon taispeántas agus clár oideachais a eagrú. Cuireadh tús leis na himeachtaí sa bhliain 2014 nuair a eagraíodh Lá Staidéir ar Ealaíontóirí Cogaidh agus sraith sé léacht inar scrúdaiodh eispéireas ealaíontóirí i rith Chogadh Domhanda I agus an tionchar a d'imir cogadh agus coinbhleacht ar ealaíon agus ar fhilíocht na haimsire sin. Sa bhliain 2015, le linn maidin staidéir dar teideal *History and Culture in Wartime Ireland*, scrúdaiodh éifeachtaí an chogaidh ar na forais chultúir.

In Earrach na bliana 2016, foilsíodh *1916 Through the National Collection*, ar acmhainn í do mhúinteoirí bunscóileanna agus meánscoileanna agus ina dtaispeántar cuid de na saothair atá le feiceáil sa Ghailearaí. I measc na léachtaí a bhí ann an bhliain sin, áiríodh *Countess Markievicz and her Role in Revolution*, a thug Brian Crowley as Músaem na bPiarsach, agus *Imagery Associated with 1916*, a thug an Dr Katy Milligan, agus thug an tOllamh John Turpin, as an Acadamh Ibeirneach Rioga, caint dar teideal *The Story of the Academy in 1916*.

I Meán Fómhair 2017, cuireadh saothair de chuid an ealaíontóra Ghearmánaigh darbh ainm Käthe Kollwitz (1867-1945) ar taispeáint den chéad uair i nGailearaí na bPriontaí i nGailearaí Náisiúnta na hÉireann. Ba í Anne Hodge coimeádaí an taispeántais, *Käthe Kollwitz: life, death and war*, inar cuimsíodh 38 saothar, idir phriontaí agus liníochtaí, a bhí faighte ar iasacht ó bhailiúchán saibhir an Staatsgalerie Stuttgart, móide dhá phrionta ó bhailiúchán an Ghailearaí. Agus sinn ag comóradh Chogadh Domhanda I, chuir an taispeántas, ina raibh dhá thimthriall priontaí cáiliúla de chuid Kollwitz, *Peasant War* agus *War*, i gcuimhne dúinn uafás agus fíorbhaois an chogaidh. B'ionann a saothair dhuaice, ar saothair choscracha iad go minic, agus achainí thochtmar ar dheireadh a chur leis an gcogaíocht agus leis an gcos ar bholg ar mhaithe leis na glúnta a bheadh ann ina dhiaidh sin. Bhí clár leathan léachtaí agus imeachtaí comhlántacha ann i gcomhthráth leis an taispeántas, lena n-áirítear dhá choirncheol a coimisiúnaíodh go speisialta agus ar ghníomhaigh Kaleidoscope mar choimeádaí ina leith.

Sa bhliain 1917, chuaigh an péintéir Éireannach, William Orpen (1878-1931), chun na Fraince mar ealaíontóir oifigiúil cogaidh agus é ag fónamh le hArm

OVER THE PAST four years, the National Gallery of Ireland has commemorated the centenary of World War I through a range of exhibition and educational programming. Activities commenced in 2014, with a War Artists Study Day and series of six lectures exploring the experience of artists during WWI and the influence of war and conflict on contemporary art and poetry. In 2015, a study morning entitled *History and Culture in Wartime Ireland* explored the effects of war on the cultural institutions.

Spring 2016 saw the publication of *1916 Through the National Collection*, a resource for primary and post-primary teachers featuring works on display. Lectures that year included *Countess Markievicz and her Role in Revolution* delivered by Brian Crowley of The Pearse Museum and *Imagery Associated with 1916* delivered by Dr Katy Milligan, while Professor John Turpin of the Royal Hibernian Academy gave a talk on *The Story of the Academy in 1916*.

In September 2017, works by the German artist Käthe Kollwitz (1867-1945) were shown for the first time at the National Gallery of Ireland's Print Gallery. Curated by Anne Hodge, *Käthe Kollwitz: life, death and war* comprised 38 prints and drawings on loan from the rich collection of the Staatsgalerie Stuttgart plus two prints from the Gallery's own collection. As we commemorated WWI, the display, which included two of Kollwitz's famous print cycles, *Peasant War* and *War*, reminded us of the horrors and ultimate futility of war. Her dark, often visceral work was a poignant plea for the abolition of war and oppression for the sake of future generations. The exhibition was complemented by a wide-ranging programme of lectures and events, including two specially commissioned concerts curated by Kaleidoscope.

In 1917, Irish painter, William Orpen (1878-1931) went to France as an official war artist, serving with the British Army. He visited the Somme, the site of one of the war's most significant and terrible battles. In its aftermath, he encountered a lifeless wasteland, the result of a prolonged campaign of trench warfare, mining, and heavy bombardment. Orpen was compelled to record what he saw, and painted a series of images showing a mutilated earth, reshaped by the mechanics of modern warfare and populated by human remains.

na Breataine. Thug sé cuairt ar an Somme, is é sin, ionad ceann de na cathanna ba shuntasai agus ab uafásai de chuid an chogaidh. Tar éis an chatha sin, tháinig sé ar fhásach gan bheatha, is é sin, toradh feachtais fhada cogaiachta trinse, leagan mianach agus trombhuamála. Mhothaigh Orpen go raibh dualgas air an méid a bhi feicthe aige a thaifeadadh agus chruthaigh sé sraith iomhánna ina dtaispeántar talamh loite, agus athchruth air mar thoradh ar an gcogaiocht nua-aimseartha, agus taisi daoine scaipthe ar fud na háite. Ba é Donal Maguire coimeádaí *Aftermath: The War Landscapes of William Orpen* (11 Samhain 2017 – 11 Feabhra 2018) inar scrúdaíodh cuid de na saothair de chuid Orpen mar léiriú ar an deacracht a bhi aige an diantráma a d'fhulaing daoine mar thoradh ar an gcogadh a thuiscint. Tugadh cuireadh don ealaíontóir Garrett Phelan saothar nua ealaine a chruthú mar fhreagairt ar eispéireas Orpen agus ba é a bhi mar theideal ar an saothar sin ná *I HAVE NO RIGHT TO BE SO NEAR*, ar focail iad sin a tógadh as line dheiridh i ndán de chuid Orpen dar teideal *A Memory of the Somme*. Chruthaigh Phelan dhá shaothar ealaine nua faoin teideal *I HAVE NO RIGHT TO BE SO NEAR*, ar saothar fuaime ceann acu agus an ceann eile déanta as cré a fuarthas go díreach ón Somme.

Táimid ag leanúint de chuimhneachán a dhéanamh ar imeachtaí agus ar thionchair Chogadh Domhanda I agus, go háirithe, orthu siúd a d'fhóin agus a fuair bás lena linn. In *Perspectives: World War I stories for the National Gallery of Ireland*, (Seomra Léitheoireachta Sir Denis Mahon, 5 Samhain 2018 go 1 Feabhra 2019), déanfaimid scrúdú ar eispéireas leanaí, máithreacha, oibrithe agus ealaíontóirí i rith an Chogaidh Mhoir.

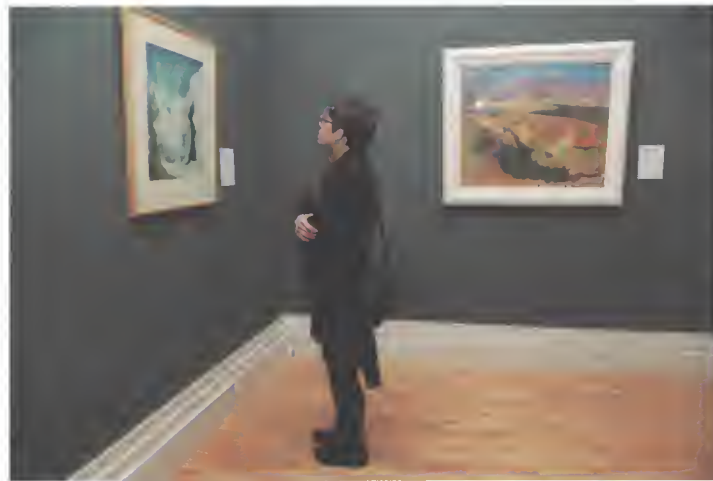
Sean Rainbird
Stiúrthóir

Curated by Donal Maguire, *Aftermath: The War Landscapes of William Orpen* (11 November 2017 – 11 February 2018) explored a selection of these works as expressions of his struggle to comprehend the profound human trauma of the war. Artist Garrett Phelan was invited to produce a new artwork in response to Orpen's experience, and the resulting work was entitled *I HAVE NO RIGHT TO BE SO NEAR*, taken from the closing line of Orpen's poem, *A Memory of the Somme*. Under this title, Phelan created two new artworks, one in sound the other from clay acquired directly from the Somme.

We continue to remember the events, the impacts and particularly, those that served and died in WWI. *Perspectives: World War I stories for the National Gallery of Ireland*, (Sir Denis Mahon Reading Room, 5 November 2018 to 1 February 2019) will explore the experiences of children, mothers, workers and artists during the Great War.

Sean Rainbird
Director

Aftermath: The War Landscapes of William Orpen Exhibition



Léiriú faoi éide ag lainséáil chlár bailithe pobail Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann (20.11.2014).

Costumed interpretation at the launch of the National Library of Ireland's community collecting programme (20.11.2014).



An Saighdiúir a d'Uchtaigh Mé 'My Adopted Soldier'

BA É AN múinteoir staire as Dún na nGall, Gerry Moore, a chruthaigh an Tionscadal dar teideal An Saighdiúir a d'Uchtaigh Mé, agus a thug mic léinn scoile as gach contae in Éirinn le chéile chun taighde agus comóradh a dhéanamh ar shaighdiúirí áitiúla a maraíodh i rith Chogadh Domhanda 1. I Meitheamh 2015, 'd'uchtaigh' gach duine den 32 mhac léinn saighdiúir as a chontae/contae féin agus chaith siad tri lá ar cuairt ar cheantar láithreacha catha an Somme i dtuaisceart na Fraince. I samhradh na bliana 2017, tháinig 15 mhac léinn Ghearmánacha le chéile le 15 mhac léinn Éireannacha ar thuras den chineál céanna chuig Flóndras sa Bheilg. I mí Lúnasa 2018, d'uchtaigh ceathrar mac léinn, is é sin, duine amháin as gach cúige, ceathrar saighdiúirí freisin agus chaith siad tri lá sa Bheilg.

Chuaigh eispéiris na mac léinn rannpháirteach i gcion orthu go mór agus tá smaointe cuid acu ar fáil anseo. Scríobh Jessica Hanratty, as Muineachán, an méid seo a leanas:

"Is é a dúirt Martin Luther King tráth ná 'Ní sinne a chruthaíonn an stair. Is í an stair a chruthaíonn sinn'. Is cur síos oinúnach an méid sin ar m'eispéireas i leith an tionscadail seo. Ní imeacht i leabhar staire a thuilleadh é an Cogadh Mór – is é scéal an tsaigndiúra shingil Daniel McGinn é, is é sin, an saighdiúir a d'uchtaigh mé; is é scéal an chogaidh é a thug ó Chontae Mhuineacháin go láthair an chatha é; agus is é an scéal é a bhaineann leis an tsíl a ndeachaigh sé ar iarraidh agus é ar fiannas ar an 16 Lúnasa 1917, agus é fiche bliain d'aois. Is é an scéal é atá taobh thiar d'ainm mílitrithe ar Leacht Cuimhneacháin Tyne Cot nach bhfuil taifead air sa stair. Gach bliain, comórann mo bhreithlá cothromdháta bhás Daniel, agus cuireann sé sin an iobairt a rinne sé i gcúimhe dom."

THE MY ADOPTED Soldier Project was the creation of Donegal history teacher, Gerry Moore, and brought together school students from every county in Ireland to research and commemorate local soldiers who fell in World War 1. In June 2015, each of the 32 students 'adopted' a soldier from his/her county, and they spent three days visiting the Somme battlefields area of northern France. In the summer of 2017, 15 Irish students were joined by 15 German students on a similar trip to Flanders in Belgium. In August 2018, four students, one from each province, also 'adopted' four soldiers and spent three days in Belgium.

The participating students were deeply affected by their experiences and some have shared their thoughts here. Jessica Hanratty from Monaghan wrote:

"Martin Luther King once said 'We are not makers of history. We are made by history'. This is an apt description of my experience with the project. The Great War is no longer an event in a history book - it is the story of Private Daniel McGinn, my adopted soldier; of the war that took him from County Monaghan to the battlefield; and of how he went missing in action on the 16th of August 1917, aged twenty. It is the story behind an incorrectly spelt name on the Tyne Cot Memorial that history failed to remember. Each year, my birthday marks the anniversary of Daniel's death, reminding me of his sacrifice."

Amelia Laughlin ag uaigh James McGee (23), Gardai na hÉireann. Ba i Amelia rannpháirtí Uladh i gClár na Scoileanna 2018 dar teideal *An Saighdiúir a d'Uchtaigh Mé*. Amelia Laughlin at the grave of James McGee (23), Irish Guards. Amelia was the Ulster participant in the 2018 *My Adopted Soldier Schools' Programme*.



Chris Reddin ag uaigh John Mc Donald Bradley (27), Fíúsaileirí Ríoga Bhaile Átha Cliath. Ba é Chris rannpháirtí Chontae Uíbh Fhailí i gClár na Scoileanna 2015 dar teideal *An Saighdiúir a d'Uchtaigh Mé*. Chris Reddin at the grave of John Mc Donald Bradley (27), Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Chris was the Co. Offaly participant in the 2015 *My Adopted Soldier Schools' Programme*.



I gcás **Bhéibhinn Breathnach** as Cill Chainnigh, bhain Tionscadal An Saighdiúir a d'Uchtaigh Mè an ceo d'ábhar a bhi ligthe i ndearmad agus a raibh neamhshuim déanta de. Ar sise:

"Thorroing on nath cainte 'an stair a dhéanamh beo' brí nuó chuige féin de réir mar ó bhi guth ó thabhairt do na saighdiúirí morbha trí na mic léinn a d'uchtaigh iad. Rinne mise taighde ar an Saighdiúir Singil Potrick Deloney os Cill Chainnigh. Bhi sé de phribhléid agam ó bheith in onn buolodh leno ghaolta rud a chruthaigh nasc mothúcháanach níos lóidre leis ionom. So bhliain 2015, bhi sé d'onóir ogom cuairt a thabhairt or Reilig Mhíleata Sucerie áit ar adhlacodh Potrick. Mise on chéod duine ó thug cuoirt or a uaigh sa tréimhse 99 mbliana ón tráth or cuireadh ansin é, óit noch ndearnodh oon chur isteach air sa réigiún ató suioimhneoch anois agus ató éagsúil go hiomlán leis na radhoirc uofásacha a bhi ann ar láithreacha catha an Chogaidh Mhóir".

Mar a leanas a rinne **Shane Macken** as Baile Átha Cliath machnamh ar an ábhar seo:

"Tá iomrá mór or Chogadh Domhanda 1 mar cheann de na coinbhleachtaí ab fhíochmhaire dá raibh ann riamh. I gcás on chuid is mó daoine, ní chuimhníonn siad ach amháin or na líonta ollmhóra daoine a maraíodh agus o goineodh. Moidir liom féin, ghlac an t-ábhar seo gné pheorsonta chuige féin i m'intinn nuair a roghnaíodh mé chun bheith páirteach i dturos no bliano 2017 i leith 'An Saighdiúir ó d'Uchtaigh Mè'. Níorbh fhado gur thosaigh mé ag cur aithne ar fhear a maraíodh ar pháirceonno Fhlóndros. Leon mé o lorg i mBoile Átha Clioth agus so Bheilg agus sheos mé taobh leno uaigh mar chomhartha ómóis dó, rud noch roibh o theoghloch in ann o dhéanamh riamh".

For **Béibhinn Breathnach** of Kilkenny, the My Adopted Soldier Project blew the cobwebs from a particularly forgotten and neglected subject. She said:

"The cliché of 'bringing history to life' took on a new meaning, as the fallen were given a voice through their students. I researched Private Patrick Deloney of Kilkenny. I was privileged to be able to meet his relatives, giving me a stronger emotional connection to him. In 2015, I was honoured to visit the Sucerie Military Cemetery where Patrick was laid to rest. I was the first person to visit his grave in the 99 years he lay there, undisturbed in the now serene region, worlds away from the hellish scenes of the Great War battlefields".

Shane Macken from Dublin reflected that:

"World War 1 is well known as one of the most devastating conflicts ever. Most people only think of the astronomical figures of deaths and casualties. For me it all became personal when I was chosen to be a part of the 2017 My Adopted Soldier trip. Soon I was getting to know a man who lost his life in Flanders' fields. I followed his footsteps in both Dublin and Belgium and stood at his grave to pay my respects when his family never could".

Rinne Alison Glass, as Fear Manach, cur síos ar an tsli inar chabhraigh a cuid taighde léi nasc pearsanta a fhorbairt leis an saighdiúir a d'uchtaigh sí agus ar an tsli ina raibh nasc den sórt seo a leanas ann:

"Ba phribhléid é a bheith in ann urraim a léiriú dan Charparáil Kerr taobh lena uaigh, rud a thug beocht da ma thianscadal taighde ina iomláine agus rud a thaispeáin, ar mhadh tachtmhar, an líon ollmhár daoine a thraid faoi dhálaí brúidiúla an Chagaidh Mhóir. Dar liom, leag sé sin béim chumhachtach ar an íobairt a rinne na pearsana sea, ar íobairt í atá ligthe i ndearmad ga minic, agus ar na pearsana seo a chabhraigh leis an mbealach a réiteach dan tadhchaí, ach leag sé béim freisin ar an tábhacht a bhaineann le ceachtanna a fhoghlaim á na himeachtaí sin chun a chinntiú nach dtarlóidh siad arís."

Seo a leanas tuairim an mhic léinn Ghearmánaigh, Gabriela, as Liebigschule in Frankfurt:

"Ní bheidh sa lían daaine a fuair bás i gcath iomráiteach éigin ach uimhir a thuilleadh atá breactha ar leathanach i leabhar atá á léamh agam. Déanfaidh mé iarracht cuimhneamh ar an líon beathaí ar cuireadh deireadh lea, ar an líon mac a fuair bás agus ar an líon máithreacha agus banchéilí ar goilleadh arthu. Is mór agam gach lá nach mbím ar láthair chatha ag traid ar son cúiseanna amhrasacha – nach mbím ag fanacht le teachtaireacht an bhfronta chun a bheith cinnte ga bhfuil m'athair beo i gcánaí agus nach bhfuil sé i measc an mhíle saighdiúirí a fuair bás le linn catha."

Alison Glass, of Fermanagh, described how her research helped her to develop a personal connection with her soldier and that it was then:

"A privilege to be able to pay my respects by visiting Corporal Kerr's grave, bringing my entire research project to life and poignantly emphasising the sheer mass of people who fought under the brutal conditions of the Great War. This powerfully highlighted for me the sacrifice of often forgotten figures, who helped to pave the way for a more just future, but also the importance of learning from these events to prevent their re-occurrence."

For German student, Gabriela from Liebigschule in Frankfurt, the experience meant that:

"I won't ever just read the number of people who died in same famous battle. I will try to imagine how many lives were taken, how many sons died, how many mothers and wives suffered. I will value every day when I am not at the battlefield fighting for questionable reasons - when I am not waiting for a message from the front to be sure that my father is still alive and not one of the thousand soldiers who died in battle"

Ag Dul Trasna na Sráide Crossing the Street

IS MINIC A deirimid nach mbaineann stair fhabhrach leis na daoine sna bólaí seo. Téann an stair sin i bhfad siar. Mar an gcéanna, ní réiteofar cúrsaí go ceann i bhfad. Dúirt an file Rilke an méid seo a leanas tráth:

WE OFTEN SAY that history has not been kind to us in these parts. It all goes back a long way. Equally, it will be a long time before it is resolved. The poet Rilke once said:

'Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves... Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. Live the questions now (and) perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer'

Thóg sé i bhfad orainn an staid láithreach a bhaint amach agus creidimid gurb ionann na freagraí atá ag teastáil sna bólaí seo agus nithe a dtiocfaínnid orthu san fhadtéarma.

In Inis Ceithleann, tá Ardeaglais Naomh Mac Artáin agus Eaglais Naomh Mícheál suite ar an bpríomhshráid, ceann amháin ar gach taobh di. Go teicniúil, d'fhéadfá a rá go bhfuil siad 'ar thaobhanna codarsnacha ach ní mar sin a d'fhéachfaimis orainn féin agus ní mar sin a fhéachann an chuid is mó daoine orainn sa taobh seo tire. Is í an tsráid an áit a fhónann mar nasc eadrainn. Is í an áit i nach mór dár gCríostaíocht í a chothú. Is í an áit i nach mór meon seirbhíse Chríost a thabhairt isteach inti.

Is daoine fáilteacha cairdiúla iad muintir Fhear Manach. Ar an leibhéal áitiúil, buann an chomharsanúlacht ar an treibheachas agus, le cuid mhór blianta anuas, tá caidreamh comharsanúil ann i measc na ngnáthdhaoine. Is minic gur chairde iad ár gcuid réamhtheachtaithe i réimse na ceannaireachta tréadaí. Dá bhrí sin, ar bhealach, níl ar siúl againne sa tá atá inniu ann ach an méid céanna a rinneadh san am atá caite. Agus is é an dearcadh atá againn ná go dtugann dóigheanna an tsaoil sna bólaí seo bailiochtú dár ngníomhartha agus go gcuirimidne na dóigheanna sin ar taispeáint don saol. Ní dóigh linn go gcaithfidh brí 'aonfhoirmeacht' a bheith ag gabháil le 'aontacht'. Go deimhin, baineann cuid thábhachtach den dul chun cinn atá le déanamh anseo le gach duine dinn a bheith dílis dúinn féin agus dár dtraidisiún féin atá faighte againn ó

It has taken us a long time to get to the present position and we believe that the answers we need in these parts are something into which we will live in the long term.

In Enniskillen, St Macartin's Cathedral and St Michael's Church are on either side of the main street. Technically, one could say 'opposite' sides, but that would not be how we see ourselves and it's not how most people see themselves up here. The street is the place that connects us. It is the place that our Christianity must cultivate. It is the place to which Christ's spirit of service must be brought.

Fermanagh people are welcoming and friendly. At the local level, neighbourliness trumps tribalism and for many years at grass roots level people have been neighbourly to each other. Our predecessors in pastoral leadership here were frequently friends. So, in a sense, we are simply continuing in our day what they did in theirs. And we see ourselves as being validated by, and as giving visibility to, the way of the world up these parts. We don't see 'unity' as having to mean 'uniformity'. Indeed, an important part of the progress to be made here is about each of us being ourselves, with our own inherited tradition, in such a way as to allow and honour other traditions also.

We had a moment of prominence here on 26th June 2012, when Queen Elizabeth II crossed the street between Cathedral and Church on the occasion associated with the Diamond Jubilee of her Coronation. People were very quick to intuit the meaning of this action.

oidhreacht, agus sinn ag gníomhú ar bhealach a fhágann spás do thraidisiúin eile agus a urramaíonn traidisiúin eile freisin.

Tarraingíodh aird orainn anseo ar feadh tamaillín ar an 26 Meitheamh 2012 nuair a thrasnaigh an Bhanríon Elizabeth II an tsráid idir an Ardeaglais agus an Eaglais le linn ócáid a bhain le hIubhaile Seasca Bliain a Corónaithe. Níor thóg sé i bhfad ar dhaoine brí an ghnímh sin a thuiscint.

Le fírinne, bhí cuairteoirí againn ón nGearmáin an lá ina dhiaidh sin agus theastaigh uathu aithris a dhéanamh ar an tsíúlóid sin. Ina dhiaidh sin, ar an 15 Meán Fómhair 2015, tháinig an tUachtarán Micheál D. Ó hUigín ar cuairt chugainn mar fhreagra ar an gcuireadh a thugamar dó go neamhfhoirmiúil nuair a bhuaileamar leis féin agus lena bhean chéile in Windsor le linn a Chuaire Stáit ar an Ríocht Aontaithe. Thrasnaigh seisean an tsráid in Inis Ceithleann freisin, ón Eaglais go dtí an Ardeaglais an tráth seo, is é sin sa treo eile. Tá 'ag dul trasna na sráide' ina shiombail anois de shíúlóid an athmhuintearais agus na hurraime: is ionann an méid sin agus na nithe a theastaíonn ó dhaoine go bunúsach, agus é i gcomhréir le bealach Chríost.

Maidir le muintir an oileáin seo a tháinig le chéile chun dul i mbun comhraic i rith Chogadh Domhanda I, thaispeáin siad an tslí ina raibh meas níos mó acu ar an mbundaonnacht i gcomparáid le treibheachas an namhad. Is ionann a dtoilteanas i leith na hÍobarthas agus iarraidh orainne fós – céad bliain níos déanaí – breathnú ar cibé féiniúlacht atá againn féin mar fheidhm den bhundaonnacht, de réir mar a rinne ár sinsir chróga, seachas ár bhféiniúlachtaí ar leithligh a chur ar leataobh.

Bionn meas againn ar ár bhféiniúlacht féin nuair a bhíonn meas againn ar fhéiniúlacht daoine eile agus nuair a thugaimid an tsaoirse dóibh a bheith ina ndaoine ar leithligh – an cineál saoirse ar thug laochra marbha Chogadh Domhanda I a mbeatha ar a son.

An Moinsineoir Peter O'Reilly
An Déan Kenny Hall

Indeed, the next day we had visitors from Germany who wanted to walk that same way. Subsequently, on 15th September 2015, President Michael D. Higgins visited with us in response to the invitation we made to him informally when we met him and his wife in Windsor, during his State Visit to the United Kingdom. He too crossed the street in Enniskillen, this time from the Church to the Cathedral, in the other direction. This 'crossing the street' has become emblematic of the walk of reconciliation and respect: it is the aspiration of the deepest humanity, and in line with Christ's way. The people of this island, who joined together in combat during World War I, demonstrated how they prized basic humanity above the tribalism of the foe. Their willingness to sacrifice remains as a call to us - one hundred years later - not so much to set aside our individual identities but rather, like our courageous forebears, to see whatever identity we may hold for ourselves as a function of basic humanity. We value our own identity when we respect the identity of others and give them the freedom to be themselves - the kind of freedom for which the fallen of World War I gave their lives.

Monsignor Peter O'Reilly
Dean Kenny Hall



Leacht Cuimhneacháin Inis
Ceithleann,
Enniskillen Cenotaph.

Savina Donohoe
Músaem Chontae an Chabháin
Savina Donohoe
Cavan County Museum

TÁ MÚSAEM CHONTAE an Chabháin bainteach le síocháin agus athmhuintearas a chur chun cinn ó bhliain 2004 ann, rud atá á dhéanamh tríd an Tionscadal dar teideal Daoine, Áiteanna agus Oidhreacht a Nascadh. Tá páirt ghníomhach glactha ag an Músaem i nDeich mBliana na gCuimhneachán agus tá aghaidh tugtha aige ar na dúshláin a bhaineann go dlúth le comóradh a dhéanamh ar aimsir achrannach i stair na hÉireann.

Sa bhliain 2012, d'fhoilsigh Comhairle Chontae an Chabháin Rolla Onóra le haghaidh Chontae an Chabháin. Ba phointe tosaithe tábhachtach an méid sin i ndáil le comóradh a dhéanamh ar ról Chontae an Chabháin sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda agus d'oir sé go maith don obair a bhí déanta ag an Músaem. Ceann de na mórghorbairtí sa Mhúsaem, ar forbairt i a d'éirigh as a bhaint le cúrsaí síochána agus athmhuintearais, ab ea gairdín síochána a d'fhorbair na céadta leanai as an gCabhan agus as Fear Manach, thar roinnt blianta, ar leanai iad a raibh páirt glactha acu i dtionscadal síochána an Mhúsaem. Ba é a bhí sa Ghairdín Síochána, agus is é atá ann fós, ná déantán trína ndéantar ceiliúradh ar chruthaitheacht leanai i leith a tionscadail.

Sa bhliain 2014, le hais an ghairdín síochána, cuireadh tús le tógáil thrinsi an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda i Músaem an Chontae. Mar ábhar comhlántach i leith na dtrinsi, d'fhorbair an Músaem clár oideachais ina scrúdaítear saincheist an chuimhneacháin agus ina dtugtar spreagadh do rannpháirtithe ról, suntasacht agus brí an chuimhneacháin, mar ghníomh, a cheistiú. Mar thoradh air sin, tá an trinse ina shiombail de chineál dearmadta ról an oileáin seo sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda. Gné lárnach den chlár is ea na daoine a maraíodh sa chogadh agus nár aimsíodh a gcorp riamh. Mar thoradh ar scéal an tsaighdiúra de bhunadh an Chabháin agus ar cheann de na litreacha deireanacha a chuir sé abhaile sular cailleadh é ar láthair an chatha, tá gné bhreise chuimhneacháin ag baint leis an trinse sa mhéid go bhfuil cuimhne á coinneáil ann ar gach duine a maraíodh sa chogadh.

Is léir go bhfuil cuimhneachán á dhéanamh ag Eispéireas Trinse an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda ar an eispéireas comhroinnte a bhaineann leis an gCéad Chogadh Domhanda ós rud é go n-úsáideann líon mór grúpaí trasteorann agus trasphobail é mar acmhainn trinar féidir scrúdú a dhéanamh ar chineál

CAVAN COUNTY MUSEUM has been involved in promoting peace and reconciliation since 2004 through the Connecting People, Places and Heritage Project. The Museum has actively embraced the Decade of Centenaries and the challenges inherent in commemorating a fractious time in Irish history.

In 2012, Cavan County Council published a Roll of Honour for County Cavan. This was an important starting point in commemorating the contribution of County Cavan to the First World War and it also naturally fed into work the Museum had been involved in. One of the major developments at the Museum, arising from its involvement in peace and reconciliation, was a peace garden, developed over a number of years by hundreds of children from Cavan and Fermanagh who had participated on its peace project. The Peace Garden was, and is, an artefact that celebrates the creativity of children on the project.

In 2014, alongside the peace garden, work began on the construction of the First World War trenches at the County Museum. To complement the trenches, the Museum developed an education programme that explores the issue of commemoration and actively encourages participants to question the role, significance and meaning of the act of commemoration. As a result, the trench has become a symbol of the forgotten nature of this island's contribution to the First World War. Central to the programme is the issue of the unrecovered fallen of the war. Through encountering the story of a Cavan soldier and reading one of his last letters home before he came to rest on the battlefield, the trench has taken on a further commemorative aspect in that it remembers all who fell in the war.

The fact that the WWI Trench Experience has come to commemorate the shared experience of the First World War is evident in the number of cross-border and cross-community groups that now use it as a resource to explore the shared cross-community nature of this island's First World War experience. This shared history has been further highlighted with the addition of the Battle of the Somme Arch, which was jointly opened by First Minister Arlene Foster and Minister Heather Humphreys (29.07.2016). It has been complemented, emphasised and explored, by the addition of a large scale outdoor exhibition Road to War, Path to Reflection,

comhroinnte trasphobail eispéireas an oileáin i leith an Chéad Chogaidh Domhanda. Tá tuilleadh airde tarraingthe ar an stair chomhroinnte sin trí Áirse Chath an Somme a d'oscail an Chéad Aire Arlene Foster agus an tAire Heather Humphreys (29.07.2016). Mar ábhar comhlántach, agus chun béim a leagan ar an ábhar seo agus chun an t-ábhar a scrúdú, táthar tar éis taispeántas mórsála lasmuigh, dar teideal *Road to War, Path to Reflection*, a chur ar bun, ar taispeántas é ina ndéantar taifeadadh ar bhás roinnt saighdiúirí as Contae an Chabháin agus as áiteanna i gcomharsanacht an chontae, is é sin, saighdiúirí ar bhain cúlraí éagsúla reiligiúin agus polaitíochta leo agus a fuair bás ar an lá céanna nó sa chath céanna.

Sa bhliain 2016 freisin, forbraíodh Eispéireas Éirí Amach na Cásca 1916, taobh le Gairdín na Sióchána. Mar thoradh air sin, déanann an clár cuimhneacháin saincheist an chuimhneacháin a scrúdú agus a scagadh tuilleadh. Is i Spás Machnaimh saincheaptha Ghairdín na Sióchána a chríochnaíonn gach turas agus gach ceardlann. Tá an spás sin tiomnaíte do théama an chailteanas agus fónann sé chun cailteanas a scrúdú mar eispéireas comhroinnte a ghabhann le gach coinbhleacht.

I mí na Samhna 2018, tá Rolla Onóra Chontae an Chabháin á athfhoilsiú ag Músaem Chontae an Chabháin. Ba é Oifigeach Taighde agus Oideachais an Mhúsaem, an Dr. Michael Finnegan, a rinne eagarthóireacht ar an bhfoilseachán nua. Tá sé bunaithe ar an saothar bunaidh agus beidh sé ina chabhair maidir le tuilleadh taighde a dhéanamh ós rud é go ndéanadh uimhir sheirbhíse agus ionad cuimhneacháin gach duine ar an rolla láithreach a chur san áireamh. Beidh aguisín ann freisin ina n-áireofar os cionn 150 fear a bhfuil baint éigin acu le Contae an Chabháin agus a fuair bás i rith an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda. Dá bharr sin, ábhar oiriúnach breise a bheidh ann mar chuid den chuimhneachán agus mar chuid d'obair leanúnach an Mhúsaem maidir le todhchaí níos tuisceanaí, níos uillechuimsithi agus níos urramai a chur chun cinn.

which documents the death of a number soldiers from County Cavan and nearby, of different religious and political backgrounds, who died on the same day or in the same battle.

2016 also saw the development of the 1916 Easter Rising Experience, alongside the Peace Garden. As a result, the commemoration programme further explores and nuances the issue of commemoration. All tours and education workshops end in the Peace Garden's designated Reflective Space. This space is dedicated to the theme of loss, and it serves to explore loss as a shared experience which accompanies all conflict.

In November 2018, Cavan County Museum is republishing the County Cavan Roll of Honour. The new publication was edited by the Museum's Research and Education Officer, Dr. Michael Finnegan. It builds on the original work and will aid further research by adding the service number and the place of memorial of all on the existing roll. It will also include an addendum totalling over 150 men with some link to County Cavan who died in the First World War. As a result, it will be a fitting addition to commemoration and a legacy of the Museum's ongoing work in promoting a more tolerant, inclusive and respectful future.



Eispéireas Trinse an Chéad Chogaidh Dhomhanda i Músaem Chontae an Chabháin.

WW1 Trench Experience at Cavan County Museum.

Moladh an Mharascail Foch do na Saighdiúirí Éireannacha a d'éag sa Chéad Chogadh Domhanda Marshall Foch's Tribute to the Irish Soldiers who died in the First World War

PARIS, FRIDAY, NOV. 9TH, 1928.

The Heroic Dead of Ireland have every right to the homage of the living for they proved in some of the heaviest fighting of the world war that the unconquerable spirit of the Irish race — the spirit that has placed them among the world's greatest soldiers — still lives and is stronger than ever it was. I had occasions to put to the test the valour of the Irishmen serving in France, and, whether they were Irishmen from the North or the South, or from one party or another, they did not fail me.

Some of the hardest fighting in the terrible days that followed the last offensive of the Germans fell to the Irishmen, and some of their splendid regiments had to endure ordeals that might justly have taxed to breaking-point the capacity of the finest troops in the world.

ON THE SOMME

Never once did the Irish fail me in those terrible days. On the Somme, in 1916, I saw the heroism of the Irishmen of the North and South, I arrived on the scene shortly after the death of that very gallant Irish gentleman, Major William Redmond. I saw Irishmen of the North and the South forget their age-long differences, and fight side by side, giving their lives freely for the common cause.

In war there are times when the necessity for yielding up one's life is the most urgent duty of the moment, and there were many such moments in our long drawn-out struggle. Those Irish heroes gave their lives freely, and, in honouring them I hope we shall not allow our grief to let us forget our pride in the glorious heroism of these men.

They have left to those who come after a glorious heritage and an inspiration to duty that will live long after their names are forgotten. France will never forget her debt to the heroic Irish dead, and in the hearts of the French people to-day their memory lives as that of the memory of the heroes of old, preserved in the tales that the old people tell to their children and their children's children.



An Marascail Foch,
Ardcheannasail
Chomhghuaillíocht
an Chéad Chogaidh
Domhanda.

Marshal Foch,
Supreme Allied
Commander First
World War

A GERMAN TRIBUTE

I know of no better tribute to Irish valour than that paid after the armistice by one of the German High Command, whom I had known in happier days. I asked him if he could tell me when he had first noted the declining moral of his own troops, and he replied that it was after the picked troops under his command had had repeated experience of meeting the dauntless Irish troops who opposed them in the last great push that was expected to separate the British and French armies, and give the enemy their long-sought victory.

The Irishmen had endured such constant attacks that it was thought that they must be utterly demoralised, but always they seemed to find new energy with which to attack their assailants, and in the end the flower of the German Army withered and faded away as an effective force.

"THEY NEVER FAILED"

When the moment came for taking the offensive all along our line, it was these same worn Irish troops that we placed in the van, making call after call on their devotion, but never finding them fail us. In the critical days of the German offensive, when it was necessary that lives should be sacrificed by the thousand to slow down the rush of the enemy, in order that our harassed forces should have time to reform, it was on the Irish that we relied repeatedly to make these desperate stands, and we found them responding always.

Again and again, when the bravest were necessary to delay the enemy's advance, it was the Irish who were ready and at all times the soldiers of Ireland fought with the rare courage and determination that has always characterised the race on the battlefield.

"WE SHALL NEVER FORGET"

Some of the flower of Irish chivalry rests in the cemeteries that have been reserved in France, and the French people will always have these reminders of the debt that France owes to Irish valour. We shall always see that the graves of these heroes from across the sea are lovingly tended, and we shall try to ensure that the generations that come after us shall never forget the heroic dead of Ireland.



An Teampall, Gairdíní
Náisiúnta Cuimhneacháin
Cogaidh na hÉireann,
Droichead na hInse.

The Temple, Irish National
War Memorial Gardens,
Islandbridge.

Sonraí na nÍomhánna

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Coiste Mhúsaem Francis Ledwidge: 22 (Sliocht as litir dar dáta an 6 Meitheamh 1917 ó Francis Ledwidge chuig an Ollamh Lewis Chase)

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Lynch, Patrick Hugh: 9, 15 (right), 16, 20 (bottom), 27, 34, 52, 57

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National Gallery of Ireland: 45 (top)

National Library of Ireland: 22, 36, 45 (bottom), 55

National Museum of Ireland: 39

Royal British Legion Republic of Ireland: 20 (top)

Francis Ledwidge Museum Committee: 22 (Extract from letter of 6th June 1917 from Francis Ledwidge to Professor Lewis Chase)

